

Programming for the Gifted

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Ministry Education

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Being Gifted

What does it mean?

A better mind?

Maybe just better perception of things.

Talents, abilities.

Superior?

Maybe, but maybe only in others' eyes.

Able? Yes, to a point.

Not perfect, never perfect.

Sometimes overrated, overworked.

Others overconfident in the abilities of the gifted.

But, after all,

We're only human.

Kate Armstrong Grade 10 Orangeville District Secondary School

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INTRODUCTION

Gifted learners form a unique minority in all nationalities and races, in both sexes, and in all levels of society. In each gifted learner whose potential is maximized through careful nurturing, society gains a person who is capable of enriching life by sharing knowledge and skills. The inquiring and creative minds of gifted learners will contribute to the sustenance of a concerned society that depends upon "information, intelligence, and imagination".1

The Ministry of Education, Ontario, believes in equality of

educational opportunity for all pupils. The Formative Years and Ontario Schools: Intermediate and Senior Divisions (OSIS) reflect the policy of the Province of Ontario that the programs in the publicly supported educational system should be designed to provide the maximum opportunity for every pupil to develop as completely as possible his/her abilities and interests and to have his/her special needs and aspirations met. This document supports this policy by providing teachers with a philosophical and theoretical framework and a practical guide on which to build relevant, innovative, and cohesive special education programs for gifted pupils.

^{1.} From remarks by
The Honourable Bette
Stephenson, M.D., Minister of
Education/Minister of Colleges and
Universities, to the Canadian
Education Association, September
29, 1982.

Gifted/Talented Children.

Curriculum Ideas for Teachers, 1978

addressed three aspects of education of both gifted and talented pupils: identification, programming suggestions, and teaching strategies. The programming suggestions that are outlined in the 1978 document are extended in Programming For The Gifted to meet the changing needs of teachers and to accommodate the requirements for special education programs and special education services that have been legislated by the Government of Ontario.

This resource document is divided into six sections to facilitate planning for gifted pupils:

 rationale for special education programs and differentiated learning experiences for gifted pupils;

- considerations for planning differentiated learning experiences;
- affective development;
- cognitive development;
- program adaptations;
- the plan for differentiated learning experiences.

The thinking-skills strands and the inquiry or investigative models mentioned throughout this document are found in the appendices. Lesson ideas for immediate implementation are not provided in this document.

1. RATIONALE

During the past few years many teachers have gained new insights into the nature of giftedness. Teachers are encouraged to supplement their knowledge by studying the underlying reasons for differentiating learning experiences for gifted pupils. This rationale provides the basis for planning special education programs for exceptional pupils who have been identified as gifted and includes:

- societal expectations for gifted learners;
- legislation;
- · definition of giftedness;
- · goals of education.

1.1 SOCIETAL EXPECTATIONS

Assumptions that gifted pupils:

 will experience success on their own;

- are not exceptional and do not require special education programs and services;
- already receive all of the extra attention they need;
- form an elitist group
 are being replaced by a basic
 philosophy that supports an
 educational system that provides
 opportunities for all pupils to
 develop their potential and interests
 to the maximum. Changes in attitudes
 towards gifted pupils are embodied in
 societal expectations that emphasize
 both the development of the unique
 qualities of all learners and their
 subsequent responsibility for
 contributing to the whole of society.

It is expected that the learners of today, including gifted pupils, will reflect qualities and display skills of:

- independent persons who are selfmotivated and self-directed;
- independent learners who are methodical thinkers, inquirers, problem-solvers, and discoverers;
- interactive persons whose relationships with others are guided by personal religious-ethical beliefs, respect for cultural differences, and concern for the welfare of society;
- creative persons who are resourceful, intuitive, and productive.

While encouraging opportunities for the development of active, independent, creative, and productive people, educators and parents should

continue to advocate programs and services that meet specific physical and emotional needs, intellectual abilities, personal and specialized interests, and perceived aspirations of gifted pupils. These societal expectations should supplant those that impose extraordinary and unfair pressures on the gifted to assume the sole responsibility for the present and future conditions of the world and humanity.

1.2 LEGISLATION

Exceptional Pupils

In Ontario, the Education Act clearly makes it the responsibility of all publicly supported school systems to provide appropriate forms of education for all pupils, exceptionalities notwithstanding. In the Act an exceptional pupil is defined as "a pupil whose behavioural, communicational, intellectual, physical or multiple exceptionalities are such that he is considered to need placement in a special education program." 2

2. Paragraph 21, Subsection 1.(1),
 Education Act

Gifted Learners

In this context, gifted learners in Ontario are considered intellectually exceptional and are entitled to special education programs and special education services that meet their unique needs.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Education Act defines a special education program as "an education program that is based on and modified by the results of continuous assessment and evaluation and that includes a plan containing specific objectives and an outline of educational services that meets the needs of the exceptional pupil". 3

3. Paragraph 63, Subsection 1.(1), Education Act

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

The Education Act describes special education services as "facilities and resources, including support personnel and equipment, necessary for developing and implementing a special education program". 4

4. Paragraph 64, Subsection 1.(1),
Education Act

1.3 DEFINITION

In the <u>Special Education Information</u>
Handbook, the Ministry of Education has defined giftedness as:

an unusually advanced degree of general intellectual ability that requires differentiated learning experiences of a depth and breadth beyond those normally provided in the regular school program to satisfy the level of educational potential indicated (p. 17).

GIFTEDNESS

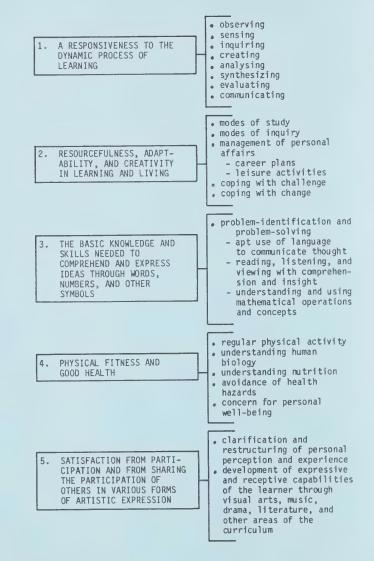
Aesthetic talents, kinesthetic talents, and psycho-social talents are not included within the exceptionality groupings. One must remember, however, that the needs of talented learners should be accommodated. In The Formative Years the policy of the Government of Ontario indicates that it is committed to the provision of opportunities for every child "to develop as completely as possible in the direction of his or her talents and needs" (p.4).

1.4 THE GOALS OF EDUCATION

The thirteen goals set out by the Ministry of Education in Issues and Directions apply to all pupils. The goals of education sustain the underlying reasons for special education programs and services for all exceptional pupils. They provide special education teachers of gifted pupils with a starting point for planning programs.

These goals are not arranged in a specific hierarch-ical order. The emphasis that each goal receives will be determined by the unique characteristics and concomitant needs of gifted pupils.

The Ministry of Education strives to provide in the schools of the province equal opportunity for all. In its contribution to programs, personnel, facilities, and resources, the ministry has the overall purpose of helping individual learners achieve their potential in physical, intellectual, emotional, social, cultural, and moral development. The goals of education, therefore, consist of HELPING EACH STUDENT TO DEVELOP:



 internal influences - realistic selfappraisal - confidence - conviction in the pursuit of 6. A FEELING OF SELF-WORTH excellence - self-discipline - satisfaction of achievement external influences - reinforcement by encouragement, respect. supportive evaluation . within the family - shares responsibility - develops supportive 7. AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE relationships ROLE OF THE INDIVIDUAL - acquires values WITHIN THE FAMILY AND THE . within the society ROLE OF THE FAMILY WITHIN - contributes to stabil-THE SOCIETY ity and quality of a democratic way of life management of personal resources effective participation in legal and civic transactions understanding of the art of parenthood 8. SKILLS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO . appreciation for SELF-RELIANCE IN SOLVING responsible consumerism PRACTICAL PROBLEMS IN appropriate use of EVERYDAY LIFE community agencies and services application of accidentprevention techniques practical understanding of the basic technology of home maintenance knowledge and understanding of - one's community - one's country 9. AN ACCEPTANCE OF PERSONAL - the rest of the world RESPONSIBILITY IN SOCIETY understanding of AT THE LOCAL, NATIONAL, - social order AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS respect for - the law - the rights of others . concern for - the quality of life

at home and abroad

regard for - Native people 10. ESTEEM FOR THE CUSTOMS. - English and French CULTURES, AND BELIEFS OF founding people A WIDE VARIETY OF - multiculturalism SOCIETAL GROUPS - national identity and unity academic, technical, interpersonal skills . good work habits . flexibility 11. SKILLS AND ATTITUDES THAT . initiative WILL LEAD TO SATISFACTION · leadership AND PRODUCTIVITY IN THE . ability to cope with WORLD OF WORK stress regard for the dignity of work . knowledgeable concern for the quality of the 12. RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONenvironment MENT AND A COMMITMENT . careful use of natural TO THE WISE USE OF resources RESOURCES . humane treatment of living things 13. VALUES RELATED TO PERSONAL consideration of ethical ETHICAL. OR RELIGIOUS principles and BELIEFS AND TO THE COMMON religious beliefs WELFARE OF SOCIETY · respect for the ideas held by others . identification of personal and societal values

From Ministry of Education and Ministry of Colleges and Universities, Ontario, Issues and Directions (Toronto: Ministry of Education and Ministry of Colleges and Universities, Ontario, 1980), pp. 4-7.



2. CONSIDERATIONS FOR PLANNING

During the initial stage of planning programs for gifted pupils, the teacher must consider the following:

- the general characteristics of gifted pupils;
- the potential and needs of gifted pupils;
- the general aim for program planning;
- a model for differentiating learning experiences.

2.1 CHARACTERISTICS

The following lists of characteristics of gifted pupils will provide teachers with a basic guide for:

- nomination;
- planning.

NOMINATION

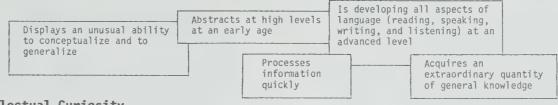
Teachers are members of

multi-disciplinary teams that have opportunities to nominate pupils to principals for consideration by Identification, Placement, and Review Committees. To be effective members of these teams, teachers must be perceptive of the global characteristics and behaviours most often displayed by a pupil "who has an unusually advanced degree of general intellectual ability". 5 Most gifted pupils have the capacity to be powerful thinkers and inquirers, creative and productive individuals, high achievers, and sensitive people. Many of the following characteristics of gifted pupils may be evident while some may be suppressed, camouflaged, or poorly nurtured.

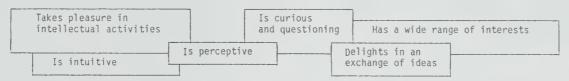
^{5.} Ministry of Education, Ontario,
Special Education Information
Handbook, 1984 (Toronto: Ministry
of Education, Ontario, 1984),
p.17.



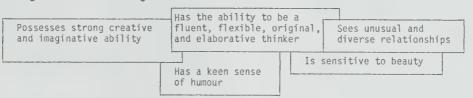
Advanced Cognitive Ability



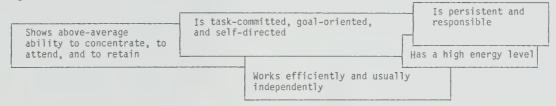
Intellectual Curiosity



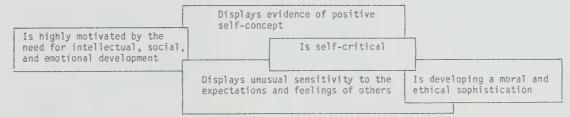
Sensitivity and Creativity



Capacity for Intense Motivation



Advanced Affective Capacity



Within the gifted population there is a variety in the way the characteristics are demonstrated by groups such as:

- achieving gifted pupils;
- underachieving gifted pupils;
- handicapped gifted pupils;
- culturally different pupils who are gifted.

Teachers must become sensitive to gifted pupils who belong to these groups when nominating pupils to principals for consideration by Identification, Placement, and Review Committees and when planning special education programs.

Achieving Gifted Pupils

Achieving gifted pupils are individuals who most often demonstrate the positive aspects of the global characteristics of gifted learners and become evident to parents and teachers at an early age. Each individual possesses his or her own unique set of characteristics that vary in number and by degree. In combination these qualities will enable the exceptional pupil within this group to be a high academic achiever and a self-directed learner.

Underachieving Gifted Pupils

Underachieving gifted pupils are individuals who appear to perform at levels below their assessed educational potential. Teachers should be aware of behaviours that may be symptoms of a variety of basic personal and social

problems that often camouflage giftedness. Underachieving gifted pupils sometimes exhibit the negative aspects of the global set of characteristics of gifted learners such as low selfesteem, irresponsibility towards self, dislike of school, hostility towards authority, apparent rebellion, poor motivation, underdeveloped academic skills, and low aspirations and goals. They have fewer interests, are less persistent, appear to be less adaptive, and are less popular than some of their peers. Pupils within this group do not perform well in school-related tasks, and consequently, teachers are reluctant to recommend them for consideration for special education programs for gifted learners. It is important to

understand the characteristics of these pupils, to interpret accurately their unconventional behaviour, and to search beneath the façade they create in order not to deny them the opportunity to be included in programs for gifted pupils that may help them to develop as creative, productive members of society.

Handicapped Gifted Pupils

Handicapped gifted pupils are individuals who may be within the multiple exceptionality grouping. "Multihandicap" is defined by the Ministry of Education as "a combination of learning or other disorders, impairments, or physical handicaps, that is of such nature as to require, for educational achievement, the services of one or more teachers holding qualifications

in special education and the provision of support services appropriate for such disorders, impairments, or handicaps". 6 Often the handicaps or impairments are emphasized, and teachers fail to recognize the intellectual abilities and potentials of the learners. Behaviours that reflect the global set of characteristics of gifted learners may be masked by the handicap. Teachers must look beyond the handicap or impairment to find the characteristics that may assist an Identification, Placement, and Review Committee to accurately identify the needs of and appropriately place a handicapped gifted pupil.

Culturally Different Gifted Pupils Culturally different pupils who are gifted are those individuals who may or may not differ significantly from the dominant culture in values, attitudes, and opportunities. Because of language diversity, these pupils may be slower to develop and display strengths or may repress evidence of their abilities. Teachers can become aware of culturally different pupils by observing characteristics such as advanced mathematical ability, logical-thinking ability, analogicalthinking ability, and the ability to transfer knowledge to new situations or to new applications.

^{6.} Ibid., p.18.

PLANNING

Effective learning is the result of thoughtful planning. Planning is concerned with who, why, what, how, and how well. The Education Act requires special education programs to be based on the results of continuous assessment and evaluation. The information gathered through the processes of assessment and evaluation should reveal the needs, abilities, interests, and aspirations of the learner. The specific needs of each learner embrace his/her unique characteristics.

The initial stage for planning a special education program for a gifted pupil involves:

observation of the pupil's behaviours;

- recognition of the pupil's unique characteristics;
- identification of the pupil's concomitant needs.



2.2 POTENTIAL AND CONCOMITANT NEEDS

Gifted pupils have the potential to become active, independent, creative and productive people.

The characteristics that foster creativity and independence must be nurtured during learning experiences.

The breadth of learning experiences will require gifted pupils to interact with others within their societies. The characteristics that foster interaction and ultimately interdependence must be nurtured as well.

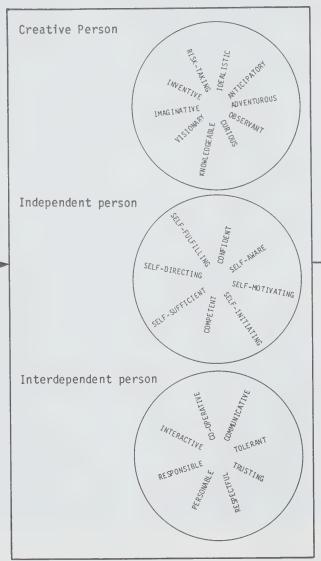
The following chart illustrates the relationship between the general characteristics of giftedness and the

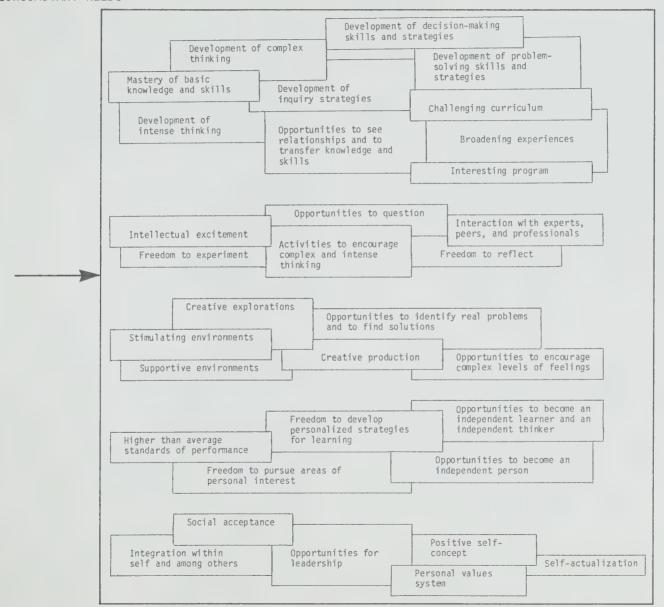
specific characteristics of potentially creative, independent, and interdependent people and links the characteristics to the concomitant needs of gifted pupils.

POTENTIAL

CHARACTERISTICS

Advanced Cognitive Ability
Intellectual Curiosity
Sensitivity and Creativity
Capacity for Intense Motivation
Advanced Affective Capacity





CONCOMITANT NEEDS

Teachers are encouraged to expand the general statements of concomitant needs and to design a checklist that will facilitate the assessment of the needs of the pupil. The checklist should be an integral part of a planning guide. The assessment forms the basis for selecting themes, issues, or problems and for formulating objectives for the development of content, cognitive and affective processes, products, and evaluation strategies.

2.3 AIM

An educational aim provides teachers with a focus for planning.

For gifted pupils, the aim is determined by an analysis and synthesis of:

- the expectations and realities of the community and society;
- the legislation and definition of giftedness;
- the goals of education for all pupils in Ontario.

The aim must be tempered with consideration of:

- the global characteristics of gifted pupils;
- the potential of gifted pupils to be creative, independent, and ultimately interdependent people;

• the concomitant needs of the pupil as a gifted learner.

The following aim may be adapted or modified through a consideration of the philosophy, policies, programs, and services for exceptional pupils within school boards. The aim is basic to the formulation of specific objectives that will guide teachers in planning learning experiences that are differentiated for gifted pupils.

TO ENCOURAGE GIFTED LEARNERS

TO FUNCTION WITH COMPETENCE,

INTEGRITY, AND JOY, AS ACTIVE,

INDEPENDENT, CREATIVE, AND

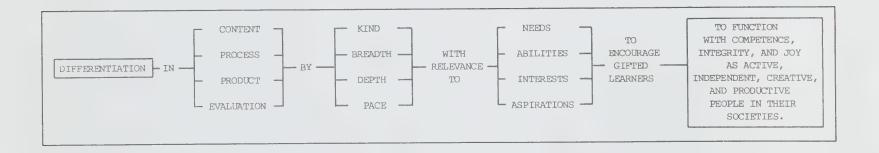
PRODUCTIVE PEOPLE IN THEIR

SOCIETIES.

2.4 LEARNING EXPERIENCES AND DIFFERENTIATION

The information included in the matrix on page 31 is for consideration when planning "differentiated learning experiences of a depth and breadth beyond those normally provided in the regular school program". The following chart provides the

rationale for the structure of the matrix. Four major components of a learning experience - content, process, product and evaluation - are suggested, and each component can be differentiated in four dimensions - kind, breadth, depth, and pace.



7. Ibid., p.17.

CONTENT

The content of a learning experience is the subject matter or knowledge that is to be acquired, investigated, or manipulated. Gifted learners should have experiences that encourage them to handle knowledge at their levels of ability by:

- using their extraordinary quantities of facts and concepts to develop powerful generalizations;
- mentally manipulating facts, concepts, or generalizations to formulate theories.

A <u>fact</u> is knowledge that is true. It is based on reality, or it really happened.

A concept is knowledge that is a general notion. It brings order to a set of facts.

A generalization is a general statement, law, principle, or proposition that states a relationship among similar, but not identical concepts.

A theory is knowledge that explains the facts, concepts, or generalizations that have been tested or confirmed. It explains a large number of related facts, occurrences, or other phenomena.

The content of learning experiences evolves from broad-based issues, problems, or themes. It should be based on the needs, abilities, interests, and aspirations of the learner and reflect the intent of The Formative Years or Ontario Schools:

Intermediate and Senior Divisions.

The following are examples of:

- a broad-based issue "Nuclear Disarmament":
- a broad-based problem -"Pollution";
- a broad-based theme "Courage".

The breadth of the learning experience encourages the learner to investigate the content from many directions as a multidisciplinary study. For example, the problem

"Pollution" can involve aspects of ecology, politics, biology, economics, history, and mathematics, among others. Gifted pupils can acquire a multitude of facts and concepts from each of the disciplines and, from these facts and concepts, formulate powerful generalizations, defensible conclusions and creative solutions to the problem of "Pollution".

The breadth of the study will provide a variety of sub-topics within combined disciplines or a sub-topic within one discipline from which the gifted learner can select a focus for an in-depth study. The depth of the learning experience provides the pupil with an opportunity to specialize in his/her area of interest.

The pace for acquiring, investigating, or manipulating facts, concepts, generalizations, or theories will be determined by the scope of the study and by the depth to which each learner investigates his/her interest. Pacing may be fast or slow, and planning must be flexible to accommodate this dimension.

PROCESS

The content is the vehicle for developing, reinforcing, or applying cognitive processes. For the purposes of this document the cognitive processes include thinking skills and their applications to inquiry or investigative models. Thinking skills are composed of two major categories - basic and integrated - and should be considered as information organizers that can be utilized within the structure of investigative models.

The skills and models are structured in detail in the Appendices, pages 125 to 145.

The breadth of the cognitive process is demonstrated through the acquisition of basic investigative models that can be utilized during the study of broad-based issues, problems, or themes. The basic models can be modified to accommodate diversity in a study. Following the acquisition of a repertoire of skills and models in the context of the school, the pupils and teachers can plan experiences with opportunities to apply the models to real-life situations. As the pupils investigate a variety of issues, problems, and themes and develop and apply appropriate models to the situations beyond the regular program, they acquire their own systems for learning.

Cognitive processes of a learning experience can be differentiated by depth. The depth of thinking is the quality or intensity of the intellectual process. Bloom's taxonomy is frequently used by teachers as an organizing framework for planning activities that will require levels of thinking commensurate with intellectual abilities (see Appendix F, p. 146. The basic and integrated thinking skills that are suggested on pages 61 to 68 are structured on growth strands. Each growth strand indicates the successive levels of the thinking skill. As the learner advances through a growth strand, he/she will be required to think at a more intense level and will gain greater insight into the application of the skill to investigative models and strategies. Consequently, through the depth of thinking, the learner will have more flexibility and more

control over his/her own system of learning.

PRODUCTS

Products are integral components of learning experiences and can be differentiated for gifted pupils by kind, breadth, depth, and pace. In this document there are two types of products - tangible and intangible. The tangible products relate to the content and are produced through the creative application of a variety of technical skills (see page 34).

The intangible products are those that result from both cognitive and affective development. The intangible products that result from cognitive development are evident through the pupil's ability to apply, increasingly and independently, thinking skills and investigative models to issues, problems, and themes that go

beyond the regular curriculum. The intangible products that result from affective development become evident through changes in behaviour. These changes are the products of the pupil's interactions with and reactions to:

- · peers,
- · teachers,
- · resources,
- learning settings and environments,
- programs.

See pages 37 to 55.

EVALUATION

Evaluation is the fourth component of learning experiences and should be differentiated to meet the unique needs of gifted learners. Gifted pupils are often self-critical and sensitive to the expectations and feelings of others. Their achievements should be evaluated by others who feel comfortable with gifted

learners and who understand and appreciate their unique qualities.

rage pupils to examine their strengths and weaknesses in an unthreatening way. Self-evaluation will lead them to appreciate their own personalized way of learning and to assess the degree to which they have mastered their own systems of learning. They will be motivated to extend their strengths and their "gifts" into new and creative endeavours that will meet their interests and their aspirations.

The suggestions and information in all cells of the matrix that follows are not necessary for all gifted pupils at all times. Only those cells that are appropriate for differentiation at a particular time should be considered.



DIFFERENTIATION MATRIX

BEYOND	CONTENT	PROCESS	PRODUCT	EVALUATION	
KIND	Knowledge (facts, concepts, generalizations, and theories) that is related to broad-based issues, problems, and themes, and that is appropriate to the learner's needs, abilities, interests, and aspirations	Personalized models Technical skills that	Tangible - creative - dynamic - reflecting excellence and integrity - anticipatory Intangible - cognitive development - affective development	Teacher-evaluation Co-evaluation pupil - teacher pupil - peer pupil - community resource person Self-evaluation	
BREADTH	Divergent in scope Multidisciplinary Generalized	Complexity of thinking - acquisition and application of specialized models (see pages 136 to 145) and advanced technical skills Elaborative Extrinsic - interpersonal and interdependent	Tangible - creative - speculative - interdependent - participatory - contributory	Co-evaluation pupil - teacher pupil - peer pupil - community	
DEPTH	Convergent in focus Intense interest Strong commitment Specialized	Intensity of thinking - acquisition and application of high levels of thinking (see pages 125 to 133) leading to sophisticated information organizers and personalized models Intrinsic - self directing - original	Intangible - self-actualization	Self-evaluation Reflective	
PACE	Determined by the degree of competence, comfort, and commitment Personalized	Determined by the degree to which basic skills and models have been acquired and directed towards the development of personalized models that result in independent thinking and learning	Anticipatory Determined by opportunities to apply knowledge, skills, and affects to new situations	Continuous - co-evaluation - self-evaluation Evocative	
	GROWTH THROUGH KNOWLEDGE PAGE 32	GROWTH THROUGH SKILLS PAGE 33	GROWTH THROUGH PRODUCTION PAGE 34	GROWTH THROUGH SUPPORT PAGE 35	Different Learni Experien

DIFFERENTIATING CONTENT

	CONTENT	The content of a learning exper is the vehicle for developing c	ience is the subject matter to be ognitive processes.	e acquired, investigated, or mai	nipulated by the rearrier and
KIND	broad based issues prob-	learning is encouraged	The selection of the content must reflect the intent of The Formative Years or Ontario Schools: Intermediate and Senior Divisions. Provisions are made in each curriculum guideline for the Intermediate and Senior divisions for modifications for exceptional pupils.		
BREADTH	Divergent in scope Multidisciplinary Generalized	The breadth of the issue, problem, or theme will permit divergency and diversity in program planning	Gifted pupils acquire vast quantities of facts and concepts from many disciplines.		The pupils, from many perspectives, form generalized conclusions from a theme, find a
			Opportunities must be provided for pupils to formulate generalizations and theories from their knowledge of facts and concepts.	Basic models encourage pupils to use their thinking skills when organizing their investigations to help them: arrive at conclusions; express conclusions; evaluate conclusions.	generalized solution to a problem, or make a generalized decision about an issue.
DEPTH	Convergent in focus Intense interest Strong commitment Specialized	and should lead to convergency in the selection and treatment of a specific or specialized topic that — meets the interests and aspirations of the pupil.	Gifted pupils may acquire vast quantities of facts and concepts from one discipline or from one aspect of many disciplines. From this specialized focus the pupils can formulate specific generalizations and develop specific theories.	The strands for basic and integrated thinking skills indicate levels of sophistication for organizing information. Higher levels of sophistication demand more intense thinking. Sophisticated information organizers and intense thinking necessitate specialized models for the development of powerful generalizations and conclusions.	The pupils, from one perspective, form a specific conclusion from ➤ a specialized theme, find a specialized problem, or make a specific decision about a specialized issue.
PACE	Determined by the degree of competence, comfort, and commitment Personalized	The pacing may be fast or slow depending upon the scope and complexity of the study and the focus and intensity of the investigation.			

DIFFERENTIATING PROCESS

	PROCESS The processes of a learning experience include the thinking skills and their applications to investigative strategies or inquiry models.				
CIND	Thinking skills (see pages 125 to 133) Inquiry models (see pages 134 to 145) Personalized models Technical skills that relate to the content	Observation Correspondence Classification Seriation P	ompensatory Thinking roportional Thinking robabilistic Thinking orrelational Thinking skills relate and are	Basic Models Basic Inquiry Model Basic Problem-Solvin Model Basic Decision Model	• Case-Study Model
BREADTH	Complexity of thinking - acquisition and appli- cation of specialized disciplinary approach to			Basic or Specialized Model	
	models (see pages 136	planning and an inter- disciplinary approach to learning. Each discipline may require the development and utilization of a basic or specialized model. The synthesis of the conclusions from all disciplines requires	nter- oach to iscipline evelopment ff a basic ddel. The conclusions nes requires Example (Broad-based problem) Pollution" (Broad-based problem) Pollution" (Ecology Politic Economi History Mathema	Politics Economics History	Physical-Science Model Critical-Reading Model Randomization Basic Inquiry Model Math. Problem-Solving Model
	Extrinsic - interpersonal			Synthesis	Essay-Writing Model
	and interdependent			Product	Technical-Skills (Videotape) —
DEPTH	Intensity of thinking - acquisition and application of high levels of thinking (see pages 125 to 133) leading to sophisticated information organizers and personalized models Intrinsic - self-directing - original	Frameworks for information organization extend from pictures, through diagrams and flowcharts to organizers based on classification, seriation, correlation, etc. Gifted learners should be encouraged to use sophisticated organizers and to apply them to specialized models. For example, the lowest level of classification requires the learner to determine whether a particular object belongs in a defined class. A high-level classification skill is the ability of the learner to construct and/or interpret a Venn diagram, a cross-classification chart, or a tree diagram. The high-level classification skills are applied in many of the specialized investigative models.			
PACE	Determined by the degree to which basic skills and models have been acquired and directed towards the development of personal—ized models that result in independent thinking and learning	As the pupil masters each basic or integrated thinking skill and acquires or utilizes each investigative strategy, he/she extends his/her expertise as an independent thinker and learner. The degree of independence is demonstrated as the pupil generates his/her own modifications of the basic and specialized models to meet new issues, problems or themes.			

DIFFERENTIATING PRODUCT

	PRODUCT	The products of learning experiences are the expected outcomes. All outcomes should be both tangible and intangible, reflecting cognitive and affective growth, and should be planned to query existing ideas and demonstrate new ideas.
KIND	Tangible - creative - dynamic - reflecting excellence and integrity — - anticipatory Intangible - cognitive - development - affective development	Tangible outcomes are concrete in form and are produced by the learner for designated audiences:
BREADTH	Tangible - creative - speculative - interdependent - participatory - contributory	Gifted pupils should be afforded freedom to design and present tangible products that go beyond those of the regular program and that meet many of the criteria to the left. This may require the acquisition of advanced technical skills that are unfamiliar. The development of these skills can form the basis for new differentiated learning experiences. (Broad-based problem) Product Advanced Technical Skills "Pollution" Synchronization of visual and auditory elements of the presentation
DEPTH	Intangible Intangible Intangible products, such as thirking clearly, feeling deeply, and acting wisely, should be the result of the integration of cognitive and affective development. - competence - integrity - joy - independent - thinker - learner Intangible products, that result from cognitive development, will be demonstrated through independent, creative, and productive thirking. The products that result from affective growth in a trusting, sharing, and supportive learning environment in which the pupil and teacher are co-learners will reflect self-actualization.	
PACE	Anticipatory Determined by opportunities to apply knowledge, skills, and affects to new situations The pacing of tangible-product development will be influenced by: the complexity of the product; the pupil's familiarity and expertise with advanced technical skills; the pupil's level of mastery of cognitive skills; the pupil's level of affective development. The pacing of intangible-product development will be determined by opportunities for gifted learners to transfer their cognitive and affective skills to new situations.	

DIFFERENTIATING EVALUATION

	EVALUATION	Assessment is the collection of data using a variety of instruments. Evaluation is the synthesis of the data. It the basis for decision-making about the pupil's performance in content acquisition, process utilization, and product development in relation to educational goals, aims, and objectives.	
ND	Teacher-evaluation Co-evaluation pupil - teacher pupil - peer pupil - community resource person Self-evaluation	Assessment and evaluation must involve both the pupils themselves and others. As the pupils gain experience in evaluation the pupils doubt their achievements and weaknesses, their abilities, interests, and aspirations. The pupils doubt their achievements and weaknesses, their abilities, interests, and aspirations. The pupils are directly or indirectly, about assessment and evaluation techniques. The transition of the teach learn also, either directly or indirectly, about assessment and evaluation techniques. The transition of the teach from instructor, to the pupil and teacher as co-learners, to the teacher as facilitator and the pupil of the teacher from instructor, to the pupil and teacher as co-learners, to the teacher as facilitator and the pupil as an independent learner. As an instructor, the teacher selects the assessment instruments and establishes the criteria. As an independent learner, the pupil selects the assessment instruments and establishes the criteria.	nt il uation
		Assessment and Evaluation of Content Assessment and Evaluation of Content	
	Co-evaluation pupil - teacher pupil - peer pupil - community	Content: Acquisition of facts and concepts and the formulation of generalizations and theories from many disciplines. Acquisition of facts and concepts and the formulation of generalizations and theories from many disciplines. Process: Utilization of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelationship of facts and concepts of the content. Product: Tangible product respond to the integration of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelationship of facts and concepts of the content. Product: Tangible product respond to the integration of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelationship of facts and concepts of the content. Product: Tangible product respond to the integration of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basic and specialized models as required by the interrelation of basi	esses
READTH		imignification (CS) (IIICA D) VIIC	-checklists -rating scales
	Self-evaluation Reflective	Content: Acquisition of facts and concepts and the formulation of generalizations and theories from a personal interest Process: Application of higher levels of thinking (sophisticated information organizers) to the development of personal investigative strategies Product: Intangible products personal organization of the integration of affective and cognicated development of personal investigative strategies	tive
DEPTH		The breadth of evaluation involves others as evaluators. The depth of evaluation should involve other evaluators but the evaluation process should be assumed gradually by the pupil as he/she becomes an independent learner. So evaluation depends upon the pupil's feeling of self-worth. A feeling of self-worth will determine the degree of sophistication of the standards and criteria and the application of these to the performance. Assessment instruments - should show a transition from teacher-selected to co- selected to self-selected - observation	Af-
		Standards and criteria - teacher-selected, co-selected, self-selected Evaluation - by teacher, by teacher and pupil, by pupil Standards and criteria - inventories - questionnaires - interviews - tests and examinations	ly aware
PACE	Continuous - co-evaluation - self-evaluation Evocative	For all pupils, assessment and evaluation should be continuous. The teacher, as facilitator, must be constantly aware of a gifted pupil's intense search to give meaning to his/her values system. Continuous assessment and evaluation should both measure the pupil's performance and provide the gifted learner with support and encouragement to strive to meet his/her need for self-actualization and a feeling of self-worth as an independent, creative, and productive perso	



3. AFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT

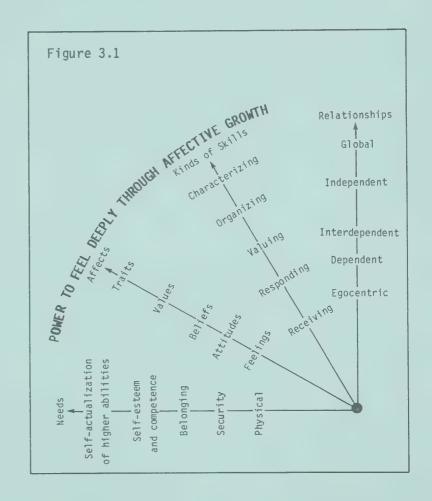
Gifted pupils differ from other pupils in:

- advanced cognitive ability;
- intellectual curiosity;
- sensitivity and creativity;
- capacity for intense motivation;
- advanced affective capacity.

The potential for advanced affective development can be nurtured through learning experiences that are based on:

- knowledge of needs, affects, skills, relationships;
- a learning environment that is conducive to affective growth;
- a plan for a conscious acquisition and an active application of affective skills.

3.1 NEEDS, AFFECTS, SKILLS, AND RELATIONSHIPS



NEEDS

A fundamental condition for learning is the satisfaction of the basic needs of the learner. Abraham H. Maslow, in Motivation and Personality⁸, provides educators with a list of five categories of basic needs that should be considered when planning and implementing programs for all pupils. Because of the advanced affective capacity of gifted learners, these pupils should be provided with learning experiences that are differentiated to meet their higher-level affective needs.

Physiological Drives or Needs

These needs must be gratified

before the learner is capable of

or motivated to meet other

needs.

Safety Needs

Security, stability, dependency, protection, and freedom from fear, anxiety, and chaos are some of the basic safety needs. Advanced cognitive ability and intellectual curiosity notwithstanding, gifted learners have a preference for a safe, orderly, predictable, lawful, and organized environment.

Belongingness and Love Needs

All learners have a basic hunger for affective relationships with people. Because of their unique differences gifted pupils may be alienated by others. They have a strong desire to overcome feelings of aloneness, strangeness, and loneliness. They need to belong to groups for healthy

^{8.} Abraham H. Maslow, Motivation and Personality. 2nd ed. (New York: Harper and Row, 1954).

social and emotional growth and to groups of their intellectual peers for stimulation and challenge.

Esteem Needs

All pupils have a desire for a firmly based and stable evaluation of themselves, for selfrespect and self-esteem. The desire for achievement, for adequacy, for mastery and competence, for confidence, and for independence and freedom must be considered when planning the products and evaluation components of learning experiences for gifted pupils. Satisfaction of these needs will produce feelings of self-confidence, worth, strength, capability, and adequacy and will lead to a feeling of being useful and necessary in society.

Need for Self-Actualization

The need for self-actualization is manifested in the pupil's desire to be at peace with himself/herself.

This intangible product is the fulfilment of potential and attainment of aspirations. For gifted pupils, this implies that the breadth and depth of the content, the process, the product, and the evaluation of learning experiences must be planned to satisfy this need.

AFFECTS

Gifted learners display an unusual ability to conceptualize and to generalize. This ability is evident in the pupil's early development of a sophisticated personal values system that is his/her attempt to deal with affective needs.

The affects include:

feelings: pleasant or painful states, likes or dislikes that are produced in a person in reaction to stimuli and are not based solely on reason;

attitudes: conscious positions
with regard to facts or
states:

beliefs: acceptance of the truth

of statements based on

an examination of

facts. The acceptance can be through either faith that is the result of one's trust in a person or thing, or conviction that is the result of being convinced by someone or something;

values: established ideals of
life:

traits: distinguishing features or characteristics of person's total approach

Affective development appears to occur on a continuum:

- growing from feelings to attitudes;
- synthesizing attitudes to develop beliefs;
- internalizing beliefs to formulate values;

 demonstrating values through traits.

KINDS OF SKILLS

This development corresponds to the classification of objectives in the affective domain by David R. Krath-wohl, Benjamin S. Bloom, and Bertram B. Masia. Their taxonomy includes five categories.

Receiving

The pupil brings a point of view to a new learning experience from his/her rudimentary values system. At this level of development the teacher sensitizes the learner to the existence of

- an awareness of a situation, phenomenon, object, or state of affairs;
- a willingness to receive, accept, or tolerate a given stimulus;
- a control of the attention at a conscious or semi-conscious state in order to select the favoured stimulus from many stimuli.

Responding

The pupil reacts to a subject, phenomenon, or activity through interests and commitment and this action leads to future participation.

There are three levels of responding:

phenomena and stimuli of the new situation through three levels of receiving:

^{9.} David R. Krathwohl, B. S. Bloom,
B. B. Masia, Taxonomy of Educational Objectives, Handbook II:

Affective Domain (New York: David
McKay Co. Inc., 1964).

- acquiescence in responding when the pupil reacts by complying without fully accepting the reasons for responding to a suggestion;
- willingness to respond when the pupil voluntarily reacts;
- satisfaction in response when the pupil receives, finds, or takes pleasure and joy from the experience.

Valuing

The pupil's behaviour reflects his/her commitment to his/her values. This display of consistent behaviour may be perceived as resulting from an attitude or belief. In this taxonomy, there are three levels of valuing:

 acceptance of a value through the willingness to be identified with it;

- preference for a value by wanting and pursuing it;
- commitment to a value through conviction, loyalty, and an intense motivation to further the things valued by convincing others.

Organization

As a pupil encounters situations for which several values are relevant, he/she organizes the values into a system, determines how they are interrelated, and establishes which are the dominant and pervasive ones. There are two sub-categories within this category:

• conceptualization of the value involving the addition of the quality of abstraction to the value. This assists the pupil to see relationships between old and new values;

• organization of a values system requiring the learner to bring values together into an ordered relationship that may form a philosophy of life. The synthesis of many values may provide a new value system of a higher order.

Characterization

At this level the pupil has developed and internalized a sophisticated values system and consistently acts in accordance with these values. Two aspects constitute the sub-categories of characterization:

• a generalized set of values enables the pupil to order his/ her world and to act consistently in it. The pupil can be described or characterized through his/her consistent behaviour; an integration of the pupil's beliefs, ideas, and attitudes into a total philosophy or world view.

RELATIONSHIPS

The responsibility for the education of a gifted pupil is shared by family, school, community, and the learners. As the child moves into adulthood he/she grows emotionally and morally as well as intellectually, physically, socially, and culturally. Affects can be acquired consciously and subconsciously through interaction with different people in a variety of settings. The number, kind, and quality of these relationships change as the child matures. Barbara Clark, in her book Growing Up Gifted, suggests:

The early appearance of social conscience that often characterizes gifted children signals an earlier need for development of a value structure and for the opportunity to translate values into social action. This can occur in the context of the society of the classroom and should then be extended into the larger world, as appropriate to the child's increasing competence and widening concerns. 10

As the pupil acquires both affective and cognitive skills, and as he/she is provided with an appropriate learning environment, he/she grows from an egocentric and dependent person to one who can interact positively

with others. The realization of the need for both the pupil and the teacher to contribute to the achievement of the goals of education and the aim for gifted pupils results in a balanced interdependent relationship. During this relationship the pupil is encouraged to acquire knowledge, skills, and affects to help him/her become an independent learner and thinker. The creative products of independent thinking and learning should be shared with others within his/her extended or global society.

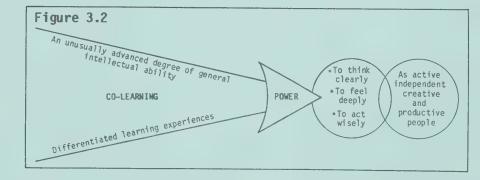
^{10.} Barbara Clark, Growing Up Gifted.
(Columbus, Ohio: Charles E.
Merrill Publishing Co., 1979),
p.26.

3.2 THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND AFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT

Values education is rooted in human interaction in the classroom and in the social climate of the school at large. In fact, it is not possible for schools to be value-free or morally neutral because schools are communities of people, teachers and students, who, in turn, are part of the larger community. Because values underlie and govern personal action, the value systems of schools are affected by the values of the people who have influence in them. 11

For gifted pupils, the quality of the learning environment is determined by:

- the degree of interdependence of the pupil and teacher as colearners;
- the qualities of the teacher as a co-learner;
- the partnerships within the learning environment;
- the setting for learning.



^{11.} Ministry of Education, Ontario,
Personal and Societal Values: A
Resource Guide for the Primary and
Junior Divisions (Toronto: Ministry of Education, Ontario, 1983),
p.8.

CO-LEARNING

Pupils who have an advanced degree of general intellectual ability and who require differentiated learning experiences can be introduced to the colearning strategy.

Co-learning is a facilitative framework on which to build mutually supportive interactions between the teacher and the gifted pupil. It provides opportunities for:

- co-planning, co-implementing,
 and co-evaluating innovative
 learning experiences;
- individualizing programs in response to the unique set of characteristics of the learners, to their affective and cognitive needs, and to their abilities, interests, and aspirations;
- nurturing affective growth and the development and utilization of thinking skills and inquiry

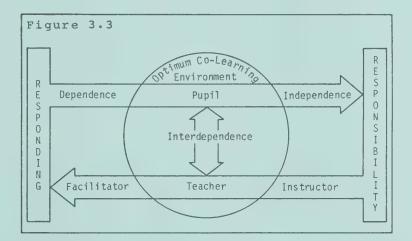
models to encourage selfmotivation, self-direction, and
self-evaluation;

 accepting and assuming responsibility for independence and independent learning.

In the co-learning environment of the school, the interactive roles of the teacher and the pupils are often modified. Through the acquisition of appropriate knowledge, skills, and affects the pupil is encouraged to grow from a dependent person who responds only to instruction to an independent learner who accepts responsibility for learning.

The teacher, as a participant in co-learning, acknowledges and
accepts the unique qualities of gifted
pupils. Over a period of time the

teacher systematically relinquishes some of the responsibilities that are associated with the traditional role of the teacher as instructor and assumes a new posture as facilitator and co-learner.



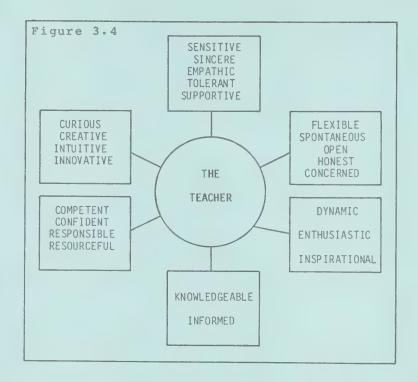
The optimum co-learning environment exists when the pupil begins to assume responsibility for learning and the teacher perceives his/her role as that of facilitator.

Qualities of the Teacher as a Colearner

The development of feelings, attitudes, beliefs, values, and traits takes place consciously and subconsciously. Many of these affects are learned both directly and indirectly from all partners in the school community. To be an effective partner in a co-learning relationship, the teacher should attempt to model many of the qualities that are desirable for the pupils.

The potential for displaying many of the following qualities of the teacher as a facilitator should be nurtured. They should become evident in the professional performance of a teacher who has:

- a comfortable feeling of selfworth;
- a realistic respect for self;
- an honest respect for the gifted pupil as a gifted learner;
- a positive sense of humour;
- a love for living and learning.



Partnerships and the Learning Environment

A co-planning partnership can include a teacher, a pupil, or a community resource person working with an individual pupil or small group of pupils.

During the initial stages of co-planning the teacher must ensure that the objectives and ensuing plans reflect the intent of a special education program. The pupil will eventually accept more and more responsibility for planning a program as he/ she displays a comfortable and competent level of ownership of affective and cognitive skills and a commitment to independent learning. As the pupil increasingly assumes the leadership role in a partnership, the teacher assumes a facilitative, consultative, and supportive role. Within this milieu the pupil responds to and accepts increasing responsibility for learning experiences.

Opportunities should be provided for a gifted pupil to enter into interdependent partnerships with another pupil and with groups of pupils.

When it is necessary and possible, the expertise of a community resource person may be solicited in order to provide a differentiated learning experience that meets the needs of some gifted pupils. The need should be acknowledged during the first stages of co-planning, and the co-learners should accept the responsibility for identifying and contacting a community person who is knowledgeable in the area. Principal and parental approval may need to be obtained as required by school and board policy. The gifted pupil

and the community resource person would then enter into a partnership to plan, implement, and evaluate a specialized unit within the special education program. The role of the teacher within the partnership becomes one of monitoring the activities and consulting with the co-learners.

The Setting and the Learning Environment

The home, school, and community are components of a co-learning continuum that involves the gifted pupil as a responsible and resourceful learner. The interaction of the co-learners within a wide spectrum of settings will contribute to the transformation of learning from acquiescence to action and of the learner from a consumer to an independent,

creative, and productive person.

A special education program for gifted learners may be planned and implemented in one or more of the following settings:

- in a regular classroom with support from a resource teacher or consultant
- in a resource setting that may be within the school or the community
- in a special education class
- in a special school

All settings will not be available to all gifted pupils but flexibility for movement from one setting to another, and for movement to a variety of learning environments within each setting, is desirable to provide

stimulating interaction with challenging and relevant resources.

The type of learning setting will determine the amount of time that is available to the co-learners, and it may determine the degree to which learning experiences can be differentiated. The decision about the placement of a gifted pupil in a setting must be based on careful deliberation to ensure:

- that the appropriate special education program can be designed to meet the needs of the exceptional pupil;
- that maximum interaction with intellectual peers can be quaranteed.

3.3 PLANNING FOR AFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT

Because of a gifted learner's advanced cognitive ability and advanced affective capacity, he/ she acquires affects early:

- indirectly and subconsciously through incidental learning experiences that evolve from learning environments that are created by the colearning partners in a colearning setting
- directly and consciously through planned learning experiences

The essence of independence, as implied in the aim for planning special education programs for gifted learners, is that pupils become able to make decisions for themselves. To act wisely in decision-making

situations, the pupil must acquire cognitive skills that can be integrated with affective skills. This process requires the learner to select and analyse, through the application of cognitive skills, all of the relevant factors when deciding what the best course of action might be for all concerned. The final selection or decision is influenced by the individual's personal values system. The development of a personal values system is an integral part of affective growth. The development and subsequent application to decisionmaking situations should culminate in meeting self-esteem and selfactualization needs including:

- self-worth;
- self-confidence;
- strength, capability, adequacy;
- fulfilment of potential;
- attainment of aspirations.

Teachers and pupils are encouraged to examine the following references in the Ministry of Education publication <u>Guidance 1984</u>:

<u>Curriculum Guidelines for the</u>

Intermediate and Senior Divisions:

- Page 9 Aim A: To know and appreciate themselves;
 - Aim B: To relate effectively to others;
- Page 18 Values Education in the Guideline Program;
- Page 21 Appendix B.

 Instructional Learning
 Objectives and Ministry
 Resource Documents.

Teachers of the Primary and Junior Divisions may wish to refer to the following pages of the Ministry of Education publication Personal and Societal Values: A Resource Guide for

the Primary and Junior Divisions

(1983) for practical suggestions for developing values systems:

Pages 10-11 - Helping Children to
Think About Value;

Pages 12-13 - Making Choices;

Pages 14-15 - A Model for Decision-Making;

Pages 16-17 - Curriculum Content;

Pages 18-19 - Guidelines for the Teacher.

The Basic Decision Model on page 135 of this publication illustrates the integration of cognitive skills with the development of affective skills. The following chart shows the compatibility of the model in this publication with the model on page 14 of Personal and Societal Values. Either of these models, a combination of both, or an alternative model will provide the pupil with a framework for decision-making that is influenced by personal and/or societal values.

Basic Decision Model Programming for the Gifted (p. 135)	A Model for Decision-Making Personal and Societal Values (p. 14)
1. <u>Identification of Issue</u> The pupil identifies a difficulty or issue.	 Identify the value issue and the values that are in conflict. Gather information relevant to the issue.
2. The Inquiry Question The pupil formulates a question that clarifies the difficulty or issue around which the study will devel 3. Alternatives By applying common sense, beliefs and interests, and policy, the pupil generates reasonable answers to the question.	 3. Ask questions which, if answered, would shed light on the value issue. 4. Gather any additional information which step 3 has shown to be important. 5. List all the possible alternatives for resolving the problem.

4. Data: Criteria and Values

The pupil utilizes information and

- a) selects the criteria (standards) for evaluating the alternatives,
- b) ranks the criteria with reference to the values they represent.

5. Synthesis

The pupil arrives at the best decision for the present by rating each alternative on criteria in light of the present situation.

6. Assessing the Conclusion

The pupil judges whether the decision or conclusion will continue to be acceptable in the future.

7. Implementing the Decision

The pupil takes action to implement the decision.

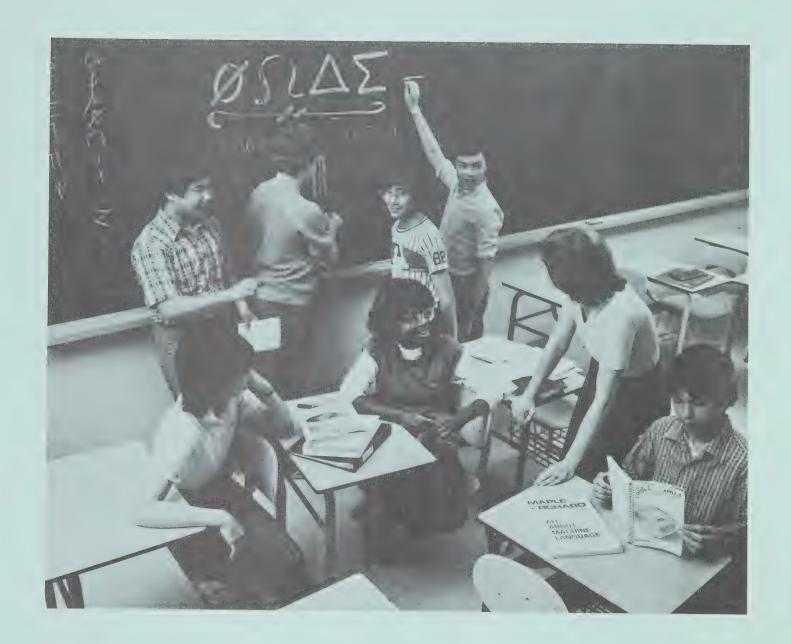
8. Evaluation

The pupil evaluates the suitability of the conclusion and the success of the action.

- 6. Consider the consequences of each alternative.
- 7. Examine the values that lie behind each alternative and identify the more important values.

- 8. Select the best alternative.
- 9. List reasons to support the choice.
- 10. Evaluate the decision according to the following criteria:
 - Is it feasible?
 - Does it resolve the value issue?
 - How would you like the decision applied to yourself?
 - How does the decision consider the rights of others?
 - Does the decision create new problems?
 - What would be the implications if the decision were universally adopted?
 - Has any important information been ignored?
 - Is the decision supportive of the values essential to the well-being of the individual and society?

11. Reconsider the decision.



4. COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT

With permission from the Niagara Centre of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, the following growth plan for intellectual or cognitive development has been adapted from the original work of L. A. Popp, J. P. Robinson, and F. G. Robinson. 12 This growth plan is one of many, and teachers may choose to use an alternative model or combinations of several models for the development of thinking skills and their applications to inquiry or investigative procedures. Teachers are expected to modify or adapt the thinking-skills growth plan and the application to inquiry models

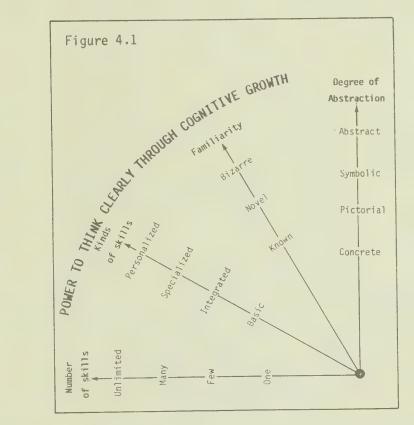
to meet the individual needs and abilities of the gifted learners for whom
they plan special education programs.
Alternatives, modifications, and adaptations should be designed to ensure
that gifted pupils acquire intellectual power through the development of
the breadth and depth of thinking.

Gifted pupils have the capacity to be powerful thinkers and inquirers. Their potential for advanced cognitive growth can be nurtured through the provision of learning experiences that are planned:

- to provide for an unlimited number of thinking skills;
- to develop a vast array of thinking skills and inquiry models to help the pupils to become independent thinkers;

^{12.} L. A. Popp, J. P. Robinson, and F. G. Robinson, Basic Thinking Skills (St. Catharines: The Ontario Institute for Sudies in Education, Niagara Centre, 1974).

- to utilize thinking skills and inquiry models to discover unique and exciting solutions to real problems and issues;
- to accommodate and encourage abstract thinking.



4.1 NUMBER OF SKILLS

Gifted pupils are encouraged to acquire a multitude of affective and cognitive skills that will enable them to function as independent thinkers and learners.

Figure 4.2 provides an overview of the skills and models including:

- the development of basic thinking skills;
- the integration of thinking skills to develop more sophisticated skills;
- the application of appropriate thinking skills to the development of inquiry models;
- the modification of basic models to provide frameworks for investigating specialized topics, solving specific problems, or addressing specific issues.

As the learner accumulates, assimilates, and synthesizes thinking skills and inquiry
or investigative models, he/she
will develop new models. These
new models are individualized to
meet the changing needs of the
learner and are specialized to
meet new situations or problems.
The modifications may be minor or
major and are unlimited in scope.

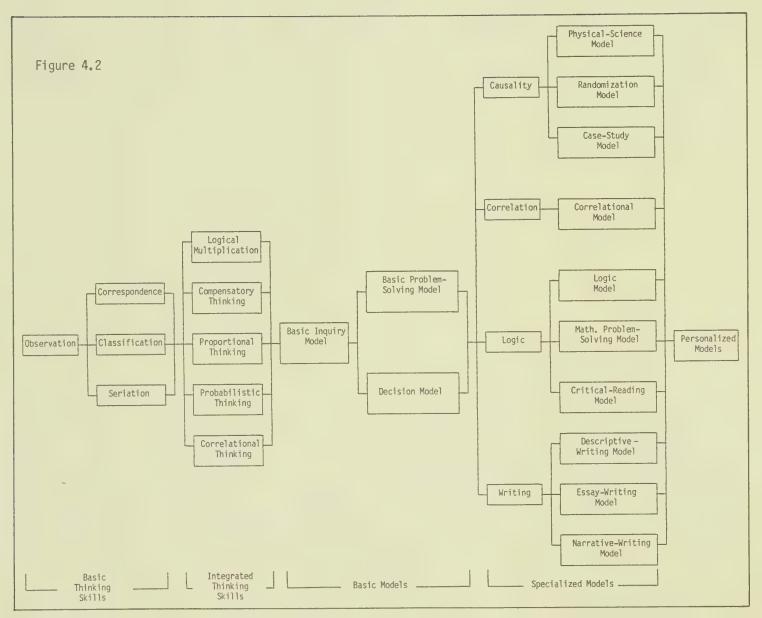
4.2 KINDS OF SKILLS

The growth plan for cognitive development includes:

- basic thinking skills;
- integrated thinking skills;
- basic models inquiry, problem-solving, and decision;
- specialized models.

The growth strands for each thinking skill and an outline of each model are found in the appendices.

The thinking skills should be considered strategies for gathering and organizing vast quantities of facts and concepts. The models are frameworks in which the information organizers are embodied. The information organizers and the appropriate model will facilitate the formulation of conclusions and generalizations.



The following descriptions of the basic thinking skills and the integrated thinking skills are reproduced with permission, from L.A. Popp, J. P. Robinson, and F. G.Robinson, Basic Thinking Skills.

Basic Thinking Skills
The four basic thinking skills
are:

- observation;
- correspondence;
- classification;
- seriation.

Observation is the ability to use all of the senses to identify the characteristics of objects and events. Although observation begins with the random activities of the newborn child, it becomes of

interest to the educator when the child begins to differentiate and to co-ordinate the various sensory approaches to the environment. The use of the senses for various purposes develops through a series of stages until, finally, the child is able to pre-plan his/her observations rather than merely to react perceptually to occurrences in the environment and to the point where he/she is able to make use of mechanical aids (e.g., hand lens, telescope, etc.) to extend the range of his/her observation capabilities (see Appendix A, page 125).

Correspondence is the matching of objects or events, or groups of objects or events. At a very simple level, children match objects one to one, as when they give one cookie to each playmate. At a more complex stage, they perform what is frequently called many-to-many correspondence when they match groups of objects by relating each set of parents to the appropriate group of children to form families (see Appendix A, page 125).

In classification, objects and events are placed into groups on the basis of similarities (e.g., grouping indoor footwear, collecting toys for the housekeeping centre, listing world records in sports, etc.). Classification is one

of the most important thinking capabilities. Because of classification, it is not necessary to deal with each instance as a discrete event; instead it is possible to react to an occurrence in terms of the class of events to which it belongs. This results in a tremendous reduction in cognitive load.

There is a considerable range of complexity to classification skills. At a simple level, the child determines whether a particular object belongs in a defined set. For example, when his/her father places a squirmy puppy in his/her arms, he/she recognizes the class to which it belongs and says "Dog". At increasingly complex levels,

the child selects elements that belong in the intersection of two overlapping classes (green apples belong to the intersection of the set of green objects and the set of apples), and eventually learns to handle hierarchical classifications (the cougar is included in the class of cats which is included in the class of mammals which is included in the class of vertebrates). Ultimately, the child understands the numerosity of relationships among hierarchical classes, the subordinate class never exceeding the superordinate class in size (see Appendix A, pages 126 and 127).

Seriation is ordering objects and events on the basis of differences in some characteristic (e.g., differences in length, weight, beauty, courage, etc.). The ability to place objects in order begins with the child indicating the correct object when two are presented and he/she is asked to indicate which exceeds the other along some dimension. Eventually, seriation becomes much more flexible and the child is able to seriate a group of objects along one variable and then reorder them along another variable. He/ she has no difficulty conceiving of the objects as belonging to more than one series at the same time (see Appendix A, pages 126 and 127).

Integrated Thinking Skills
The five integrated thinking
skills are:

- proportional thinking;
- compensatory thinking;
- logical multiplication;
- correlational thinking;
- · probabilistic thinking.

Proportional thinking is involved in determining the magnitudes of groups in relation to each other. Simple ratio situations are common from early childhood. A child who expects cookies to be dispensed in the ratio of one to one very soon recognizes the injustice of the situation when his/her playmate ends up with more cookies than he/she has. Similarly, if George

gets one car each time Sally gets two trucks, he is soon able to determine the number of trucks one child should have when the other has three cars. Eventually, proportional thinking makes it possible for adults to deal with complex notions of velocity, per cent, interest, discount, commission, etc. (see Appendix B, pages 128 and 129).

Compensatory thinking deals with the notion of equilibrium and changes in equilibrium. When a change occurs in a system, the magnitude and direction of change must be noted, and ways in which a change can be overcome may be

weight is added to one end of a balance beam which is in equilibrium, the arm drops. This effect can be compensated for in several ways. One early response by children is, of course, to remove the weight. Other compensations are suggested by older children: adding a weight to the other side, or shifting the positions of weights on either or both sides until equilibrium is re-established.

In some instances, it is not possible to intervene in the system without permanently altering it and, therefore, the child is not able to reverse the change in the usual manner. In such cases,

the notion of experimental and control samples can be employed. One system is retained as a reference (control) group while each experimental condition illustrates one possible adjustment of the system. In other words, the samples exemplify the control condition and the effect of each of the independent variables on the system (see Appendix B, page 128).

Logical multiplication is frequently introduced as an extension of simple classification. It involves treating objects or events in terms of two dimensions at the same time. For example, grouping people into the classes male

and female is simple classification; sub-grouping each category into adults and children results in a cross-classification. This is an example of the application of logical multiplication since each element is placed according to two characteristics. So, the young girl is placed in the female-children sub-group, while grandfather is an element of the male-adult cell in the cross-class-ification.

Instead of discrete categories, one of the dimensions for logical multiplication might be a series representing a continuous variable (e.g., height). Similarly, logical multiplication can involve two

series rather than two discrete classifications as the two dimensions. The most common example would be the graph with continuous variables along both dimensions. The characteristics of a particular element are represented by its location on the plane of the graph, given by the co-ordinates for that point (see Appendix B, page 128).

Correlational thinking is another extension of classification and of logical multiplication. It permits people to make allowances for cases that deviate from what is regular, normal, or right. Correlation deals with relationships among variables

where not every event necessarily follows the general trend. As one variable changes in magnitude, another variable also changes, but the relationship need not be a perfect one. For example, it is incorrect to say, "Young people are bad drivers." Having met a good young driver once, one must say, "There is a relationship between age and driving ability." Correlational thinking involves identifying a relationship when it exists, indicating the direction of the relationship (positive or negative), and indicating the strength of the relationship (see Appendix B, pages 128 and 129).

Probabilistic thinking involves determining the likelihood of occurrence of an event. Very few events in the world are certain. Instead. their occurrence is more accurately described in terms of probability statements. In the usual case, probability involves determining the proportion of successful events; so the child begins by distinguishing between successful and non-successful events. Higher levels deal with establishing ratios of success and non-success, opening the door to the more traditional statistical treatment of probability (see Appendix B, page 128).

Some teachers develop with their pupils the basic and integrated thinking skills in the sequence outlined in the growth plan on pages 132 and 133, and then apply them to inquiry or investigative models as required. Other teachers prefer to introduce the basic inquiry model, the basic problem-solving model, and/or the decision model, and develop the concomitant thinking skills as required for each model. This approach provides the pupils with an immediate need to learn and to apply appropriate thinking skills. The same procedure is used with the specialized model.

Each strand for a basic thinking skill shows many levels or stages through which the skill may be elaborated, culminating in an

intensity or depth of thinking that reflects the intellectual ability of gifted learners. The application of the sophisticated levels of thinking will result in a richness of conceptbuilding and the discovery of powerful generalizations that are unattainable by most pupils.

Basic Inquiry Model, Basic Problem—Solving Model, Basic Decision Model
The application of the basic thinking skills and the integrated thinking skills occurs during the development and utilization of inquiry, systematic investigative strategies, and communication models. The basic thinking skills and integrated thinking skills that relate to a specific model are listed with the model on pages 134 and 135.

The procedures for developing the basic inquiry model are found in the Ministry of Education publication Research Study Skills, Curriculum Ideas for Teachers, 1979. This model is summarized on page 134. The basic inquiry model can be adapted for use by pupils of all ages.

The basic problem-solving model and the basic decision model evolve from the basic inquiry model as the topics being investigated move from themes, to problems, to issues. The basic problem-solving model and the basic decision model are shown on pages 134 and 135.

Specialized Models

When the pupils have displayed competence as independent investigators,

the specialized models that are appropriate to the issue, problem, or theme can be introduced. Ten specialized models grow from the basic inquiry model, the basic problem-solving model, and the decision model. Each specialized model employs specific modifications that are characteristic of a related discipline.

A growth strand for the introduction of the specialized models is found in Figure 4.3. The concepts and skills are indicated for each model. This growth strand is a suggestion only and should be adapted to meet the needs and interests of the pupils. Some models have prerequisites, and the sequence becomes evident as the models are analysed.

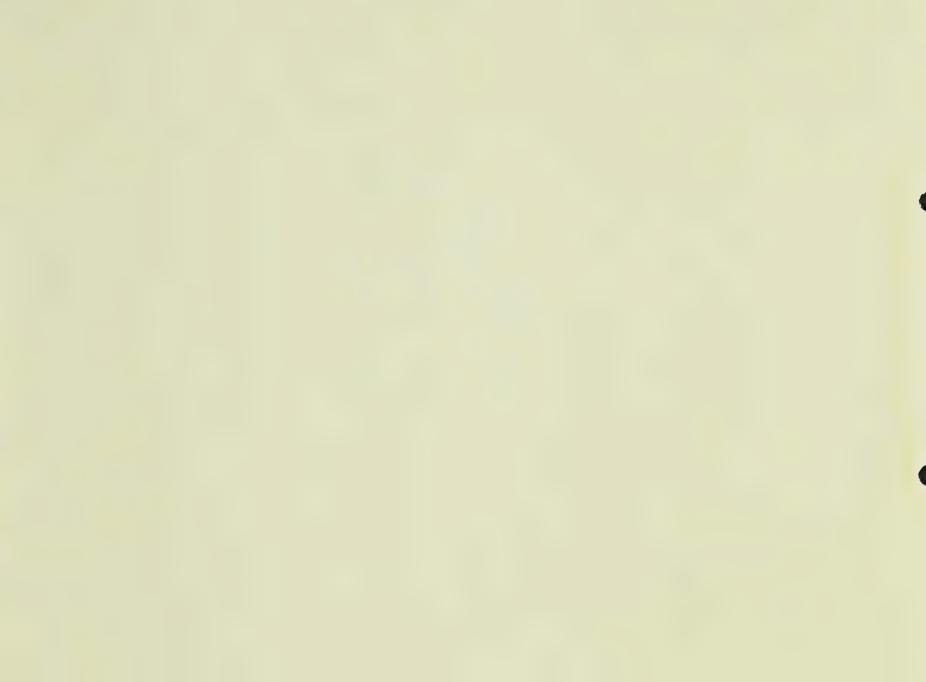


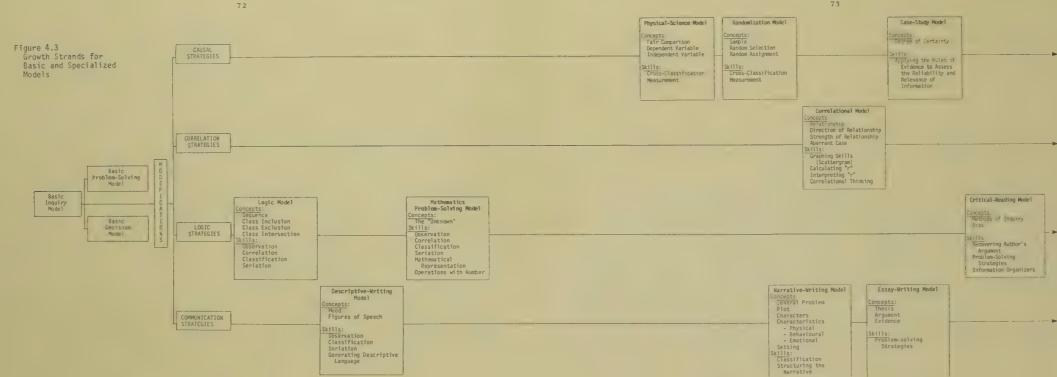


For all students the basic models provide frameworks for investigating themes, for solving problems, or for resolving issues. The specialized models, that are specific modifications of the basic models, provide gifted learners with more complex frameworks for a greater breadth of thinking.













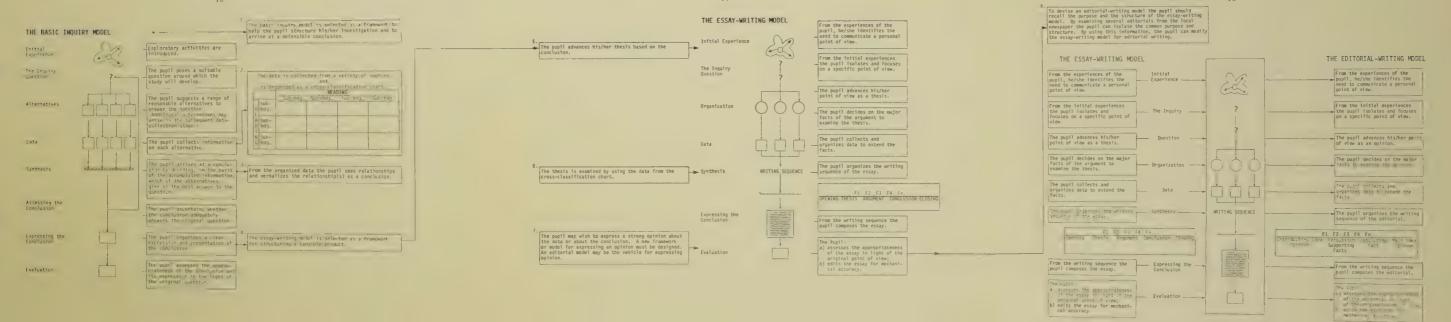
Developing New Models from Existing Models

Gifted learners will be required to make minor or major modifications to existing models to accommodate their studies in specialized areas. The following illustrates:

- the application of a crossclassification chart to both the basic inquiry model and the essay-writing model;
- minor modifications to the essay-writing model to develop a new framework for editorial writing.







thinkers.

4.3 FAMILIARITY

Gifted learners have the potential to be creative producers. They see unusual and diverse relationships, have the ability to generate original ideas and solutions, and have the capacity to be fluent, flexible, original, and elaborative thinkers.

One of the thirteen goals of education in Ontario is to help all pupils develop resourcefulness, adaptability, and creativity in learning and living. An important element of the aim for gifted pupils is to encourage them to function as creative and productive people in their society. This encouragement comes through the provision of appropriate learning environments and learning experiences

that are designed for the production of ideas that reflect growth from the known, to the novel, and eventually to the bizarre.

An appropriate learning environment that encourages creative production should embody:

- · a physical setting that exudes creativity:
- e a teacher with a desire to foster the professional attributes suggested on page 48 of this publication.

The learning experiences should be designed to provide for the development of creativity through the

- affective skills;
- e cognitive skills;
- . talents or aptitudes in a specific area;
- e intuition.

James J. Gallagher, in his book Teaching the Gifted Child, 13 suggests a sequence of steps through which a creative person passes in his/her produc-

- · preparation;
- · incubation;

problem;

- · illumination:
- · verification.
- E. Paul Torrance and R. E. Myers, in Creative Learning and Teaching, 14 identify five steps for creative problem
- solving: · sensing problems and
- challenges; · recognizing the real

- · producing alternative solutions; evaluating ideas;
- · preparing to put the idea into use.

On page 137 of this publication, the basic problem-solving model shows eight steps:

- · problem setting:
- · the inquiry question;
- alternatives;
- · data;
- a synthesis;
- assessing the conclusion;
- . solving the problem;
- · evaluation.

The following chart shows the relationship among the above three sequences of steps. A synthesis of these may provide the pupils with a strategy for producing original and useful solutions to real problems or issues.

^{13.} James J. Gallagher, Teaching the Gifted Child (Boston: Allyn and Bacon Inc., 1975).

^{14.} E. Paul Torrance and R. E. Myers, Creative Learning and Teaching (New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.,

Gallagher	Torrance	Basic Problem-Solving Model
3. Illumination Stage - at this stage the pupil suddenly sees the ideas, concept or solution to the problem or issue.	4. Evaluating Ideas - the learners select the best ideas by developing evaluative criteria such as: - cost; - time; - usefulness; - practicality; - social acceptance.	5. Synthesis - the pupil arrives at a conclusion by deciding, on the basis of the accumulated information, which of the alternatives give(s) the best answer to solve the problem.
4. Verification Stage - the idea that was obtained through the first three stages is validated during the verification stage.		6. Assessing the Conclusion - the pupil ascertains whether the conclusion adequately answers the original question and solves the problem.
	5. Preparing to Put the Idea Into Use - the learner implements the idea; - further changes may be necessary; - implementation may require idea production.	7. Solving the Problem - the pupil solves the problem.
		8. Evaluation - the pupil expresses the appropriateness of the solution for the original deficiency.

In addition to the basic problem-solving model, creative thinking becomes an integral part of a study using the basic inquiry model or the basic decision model as the pupils suggest a wide range of alternatives to tentatively answer the inquiry question.

Many of the ten specialized models include deliberate strategies for requiring or improving creative production.

Creative thinking is required in the logic model as the learners explore alternatives in their attempts to answer the inquiry question. The pupils are expected to think creatively during the implementation of the critical-reading model as they

organize their study to compare the author's procedure with an appropriate standard. The descriptive-writing and the narrative-writing models require creative thinking and creative production throughout. When gifted learners select the essaywriting model they will be expected to examine creatively a self-selected thesis. They should be encouraged to prepare and present their arguments in fresh and exciting ways that move from the novel to those that are strikingly out of the ordinary. The physical-science, randomization, and case-study models, as is true of the basic models, support creative thinking during the exploration of many alternatives

to answer the inquiry question. Gifted pupils will create diverse and unique methods for gathering data on which the conclusions will be based. For all models including the correlational model, tangible products that are unique should be designed to communicate the conclusions.

Creative producers are self-actualized people. They have available to them a repertoire of thinking skills and inquiry or investigative models from which they can design their own models. The development of personalized models will provide gifted learners with strategies to produce creatively with spontaneity, originality, sensitivity, and commitment. Teachers must encourage the pursuit of and be prepared to accept information organizers and frameworks that

are far beyond those suggested in this document.

4.4 DEGREE OF ABSTRACTION

Children appear to move through a series of stages of development in intellectual ability and exhibit different levels of performance at each stage. The growth strands for the basic and integrated thinking skills (Appendix A and Appendix B) indicate the levels of performance. Generally, children use different levels of representation as they move from the concrete, to the pictorial, to the symbolic, and finally to the abstract (see Appendix B. page 128). When planning learning experiences, teachers must be sensitive to the ability of gifted learners to think at sophisticated and

complex levels of abstraction at an early age.

The following quotation from L. A. Popp, J. P. Robinson, and F. G. Robinson, Basic Thinking Skills (pp. 17-19) will provide the co-learners with a deeper understanding of the levels of efficient representation.

One aid to the application of basic thinking skills is the ability to produce a visual representation of what the pupil intends to do. At some beginning level, the representation may be highly physical as when children employ toy cars to represent the positions of cars in a situation to which they are attending. One development which should occur is the change from physical representation to pictures, diagrams and increasingly abstract schematic representations. This progression appears to be associated with increasing competence in the

utilization of skills in problem situations. In addition, it appears to be something which is teachable and, therefore, something to which teachers should pay attention.

In addition to the use of such basic diagrammatic procedures as Venn diagrams, crossclassification tables and tree diagrams, students should develop a more general diagrammatic ability. Good problem solvers appear to employ schematic representations of complex situations which assist them in pursuing the solutions to issues. These schematic approaches are frequently idiosyncratic, therefore, teachers may wish to encourage their pupils to develop personal ways of representing problem situations diagrammatically. Nevertheless, although these diagrammatic approaches may differ from pupil to pupil, there are certain common characteristics upon which the teacher may wish to focus attention. A reflection of the pupil's ability to understand the problem setting is his/her selection of an appropriate representation for the problem. For example, when



he/she is required to calculate difference in size between the largest and the smallest elements in a series of items, the pupil should select a representation based on seriation rather than one based on ratio or probability. He/she will also select suitable categories for the representation. This is a critical aspect of crossclassification and of graphic representation.

Flexibility in the use of representations is one of the characteristics of the developmental sequence which teachers should strive to encourage. This flexibility is based on several considerations:

(1) The pupil must realize that the systems of representation are arbitrary. They are useful to the extent that they mirror the action of various problem situations and not because they possess any intrinsic value of their own. Also, the problem situation can be correctly represented in a variety of ways.

- (2) The pupil should employ increasingly efficient representations, i.e., representations that contain less and less irrelevant information. This is one of the characteristics of the progression from the use of realistic objects, to representational objects, to pictures, and finally to abstract diagrammatic representations.
- (3) The pupil must recognize problem settings that do not present adequate data and, therefore, do not have a unique solution.

 In these instances, there is no one adequate representation since the problem may be represented, but the solution cannot be uniquely abstracted from it.

As flexibility of representation increases, the pupil learns to apply it to more complex settings in a more sophisticated way. It is

for this purpose that the specialized models have been designed. Each model is a framework that provides a sequence of steps that the learner can follow to solve a general or specific problem or make sound decisions about a general or specific issue. In this sense, the basic and specialized models and the personalized models may be viewed as the ultimate representations for various situations.

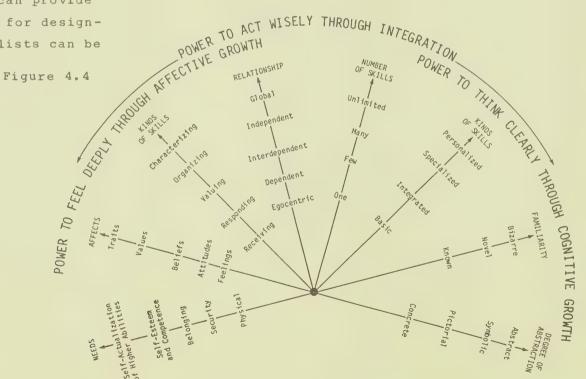
4.5 THE INTEGRATION OF AFFECTIVE AND COGNITIVE SKILLS

Figure 3.1, "Power to Feel Deeply Through Affective Growth", on page 37, and Figure 4.1, "Power to Think Clearly Through Cognitive Growth", on page 58, depict affective and cognitive growth as occurring along numerous rays. Learning experiences should be designed to encourage all pupils to move outwardly along each ray to develop their potential to the fullest. The degree of differentiation of the learning experiences will be determined by an assessment of the needs, abilities, interests, and aspirations of each pupil.

Experiences for gifted learners should be planned to encourage affective and cognitive growth towards the outer extremities of the rays. The degree of independence, creativity, and production is determined by quantity and the quality of the skills and the breadth and depth of the learning experiences in which all skills are integrated.

Figure 4.4, "Power to Act
Wisely Through Integration", can be
used as a broad base for assessing the
needs of the pupils. The general
ideas on the rays and the specific
levels of performance that are described on the growth strands in
Appendices A, B, D, and E can provide
the co-learners with items for designing checklists. The checklists can be

used for developing profiles that indicate the achievements and the cognitive and affective needs of the individuals. The profile provides the teacher and the pupil with critical data to be used during the initial stage of planning.



5. PROGRAM ADAPTATIONS

5.1 PRIMARY AND JUNIOR DIVISIONS

During the initial stages the co-learning partners in the Primary and Junior Divisions may select broad-based issues, problems, or themes that form the foundations on which to build special education programs.

Inherent in a special education program for gifted pupils should be:

- a multidisciplinary approach to program adaptation;
- an interdisciplinary emphasis on learning.

This approach and emphasis should result in an integrated study that provides opportunities for:

 intrinsic and extrinsic motivation towards meeting the needs, interests, abilities, and aspirations of the learners;

- breadth and depth of content, process, product, and evaluation;
- clarification and extension of knowledge and affects through transfer;
- reinforcement and extension of cognitive and technical skills through application.

5.2 INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR DIVISIONS

A program for a pupil in the
Intermediate or Senior Division
is defined as a set of one or
more courses. These courses are
usually developed from Ministry
of Education curriculum guidelines. For exceptional pupils
this program must be transformed
into a special education program. To customize a program

for a gifted pupil in the Intermediate or Senior Division the co-learners must maximize flexibility in:

- designing guideline courses;
- scheduling time;
- designing non-guideline courses;
- learning beyond the classroom;
- diploma requirements.

DESIGNING GUIDELINE COURSES

Advanced-level courses that are enriched may meet the needs of some gifted learners and may be included as components of their

special education programs. 15

The degree to which these courses can be adapted to meet the needs of the gifted pupil should be considered by the co-learners during the planning sessions.

References to the matrix on page 31 should be made as the co-learners plan differentiated learning experiences that are "beyond those normally provided in the regular school program".

^{15.} See Ministry of Education,
Ontario, Ontario Schools:
Intermediate and Senior Divisions
(Toronto: Ministry of Education,
Ontario, 1984), Section 4.6,
p.16.

An Identification. Placement, and Review Committee of the Board may recommend that the special needs of a gifted learner in any grade of an elementary school may be met, in part, through placement in a secondary-school setting. Where local supervisory officers have granted prior permission for elementary-school pupils to enrol in secondary-school courses for credit, the principal of the secondary school may admit the pupil to one or more secondaryschool courses as part of his or her special education program and shall assume the responsibility for evaluating the pupil's achievements and for granting credits. For some gifted pupils a course designed at the advanced level may provide appropriate

challenge; for others a course planned at the advanced enriched level of difficulty may be required.

SCHEDULING TIME

A credit is granted to a pupil by a principal in recognition of the successful completion of a course for which a minimum of 110 hours has been scheduled. Special provisions, however, should be made for a gifted learner whose rate of progress warrants the use of less time for the successful completion of the course than has been planned. The allocation of scheduled time is the responsibility of the principal and pacing should be considered during the planning process. 16

^{16.} See ibid., Section 2.3, p.6.

Compacting is a viable process for completing the content requirements of a course in a shorter period of time. Compacting course content can accommodate those pupils:

- whose <u>interests</u> have led to prior mastery of some topics of the course;
- whose <u>abilities</u> and commitments will result in an advanced rate of acquisition and mastery of content and processes.

The scope and degree of proficiency in both previously or newly acquired knowledge and skills can be determined through:

- informal assessments during planning;
- formalized assessment and evaluation using pre-tests and post-tests.

Gifted pupils can be given time to pursue topics of personal interest in a challenging way by planning to:

- delete previously acquired knowledge and skills from the course;
- avoid unnecessary repetition;
- · adjust the pace of learning.

or a complete course can be compacted. By compacting topics within a course of study, several periods of released time can be dispersed throughout the semester or school year. During these periods of released time gifted pupils may identify and study adjunct topics that are of

personal interest. The following chart outlines three adaptations and appropriate areas for differentiation.

2328238233	Adaptation	Differentiation
Compacting one or more	- co-planning an adjunct topic or topics that relate to a theme of the guideline course	- differentiation of content and product with an emphasis on depth
topics of a curriculum-	- co-planning one topic or topics that are <u>unrelated</u> to the theme of the guideline course	
course to provide released time	- co-planning a unit or mini- course to acquire an identified thinking skill, inquiry or specialized model, or an ad- vanced technical skill that may be utilized in the development of a subsequent topic	- differentiation of process with an emphasis on kind, breadth, and pace

Some co-learners prefer to compact a complete course to

provide a longer period of released time during the latter part of a semester or school year. During this time the adjunct topic or topics can relate to, or be independent of, the course. This program adaptation can be implemented in a variety of settings and can utilize a wide range of resources.

As the co-planners
assess the strengths and the
needs of the gifted learners,
they may identify a cognitive
process or a cluster of processes
that should be developed or
refined. Consequently, the
released time for adjunct topics
or mini-courses should be
scheduled to precede the compacted guideline course. The
mini-course should be designed to
include the development of

specialized inquiry models or advanced technical skills that have immediate application to the subsequent topics in the guide-line course. The application of the newly acquired skill or skills serves two functions:

- to become the differentiation factor (breadth) of the learning experience;
- to supplement and complement the pupil's repertoire of models from which he/she can continue to build personalized models for independent learning.

The following chart summarizes two possible adaptations and the related areas for differentiation.

	Adaptation	Differentiation
Compacting a complete curriculum-	- co-planning an adjunct unit or units as a module or modules that <u>relate</u> to the compacted course	- differentiation of content, process, product, and evaluation by kind, breadth, depth, and pace
guideline course to provide released time	- co-planning a unit that is unrelated to the compacted course and that may become another compacted guideline course, a module of a guideline course, or a nonguideline course or module	- a greater degree of differen- tiation of content, process, product, and evaluation by kind, breadth, depth, and pace

DESIGNING NON-GUIDELINE COURSES

Where an academic need of a gifted pupil is identified and it cannot be met by a course developed from a Ministry of Education guideline, a non-guideline course may be developed as a component

of an exceptional pupil's special education program. Careful consideration should be given to the conditions that are specified in Ontario Schools: Intermediate and Senior Divisions 17 for developing non-guideline courses. These courses can provide unlimited possibilities for differentiating learning experiences:

- to meet the needs of gifted learners;
- to challenge the abilities and nurture the potential of colearners;
- to extend the interests of the gifted learners;
- to satisfy the aspirations of the gifted learners.

It is important, however, that choices of compulsory
and elective courses enhance the
aspirations of the pupils and
that the inclusion of nonguideline courses not jeopardize

Some educators integrate learning by designing a multidisciplinary program for multicredits to allow for breadth of content, process, product, and evaluation. Multidisciplinary programs can consist of courses that are built on guidelines, or they can be designed around nonguideline courses. Most teachers find adequate flexibility within guidelines for multidisciplinary programs.

^{17.} Ibid., p. 32.

the learner's opportunities for admission to academic and professional courses in the future.

The following chart illustrates the advantages of non-guideline courses for gifted pupils.

	Adaptation	Differentiation
Non-guideline courses for learning experiences that go beyond those that are usually provided in the regular school program	- selection of content and process that can be integrated during the development of a multidisciplinary program - selection of content and process beyond the Ministry of Education curriculum guidelines - development of processes and products that are strikingly out of the ordinary - achievement of educational goals that leads to affective growth - unusual learning settings and environments - flexibility with scheduling to meet the objectives - programs and courses that are designed to accommodate learning modalities	- opportunities for maximum differentiation of all components of a learning experience by all dimensions for affective and cognitive growth that encourages gifted learners to function with competence, integrity, and joy as active, independent, creative, and productive people in their societies

LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

a) Independent Study

The needs and interests of the pupils may be met by adapting the programs to accommodate their learning styles. Pupils who are developing their personal models for learning should be encouraged to pursue topics of interest through independent study. The conditions for independent study, as outlined on page 30 of Ontario Schools: Intermediate and Senior Divisions, must be met. Teachers and pupils are encouraged to refer to pages 26 and 27 of the Ministry of Education publication Partners in Action: The Library Resource Centre in the School Curriculum for a general planning quide for structuring the study. The degree to which a pupil has

mastered independent learning skills must be assessed during the planning stage, and the acquisition of new skills and mastery of known skills must be incorporated into the plan.

The process for selecting, planning, investigating, monitoring, reporting, and evaluating the independent study topic or topics can be managed in a variety of ways depending upon the needs and abilities of the learners.

From the topics of a guideline course, that have been planned at the advanced level or the advanced enriched level, the co-learners may identify a topic

of personal interest that can be investigated through independent study. This approach may be an alternative to the in-class development of the topic or it may take place during released time that results from compacting.

Included within the plan for study will be:

- the objectives for the
 topic;
- identified components of the learning experience;
- a timeline that spans the time that is scheduled for completion of the study of the topic in the regular course.

Each pupil should be free to differentiate the content and process of the learning experiences by kind, breadth, and depth. The aim for gifted learners should be evident through a creative product that can be shared with an appropriate and predetermined audience. The depth of the learning experience should result in a higher level of independence and a greater respect for self. The degree to which pacing can be differentiated will be dependent upon the extent of scheduled time. Evaluation can be differentiated through breadth, depth, and pace. The independent-study strategy provides many opportunities for the development of self-evaluation skills.

The practice of isolating topics from a guideline course or from an approved nonguideline course for independent study may be extended to include several related topics that can be developed as a unit. This practice may be extended further to include a complete course. The independent study of a major component of a course or a complete course will provide opportunities for gifted pupils to be creative When planning for differentiation in all aspects of the learning experiences. This freedom to plan, to implement, and to evaluate courses will encourage the pupils:

 to accept responsibility for their learning;

- to assume ownership of their learning;
- to gain power over their learning.

The following chart provides an overview for independent study.

Chart Pg. 95 here

	Adaptation	Differentiation
Independent study for independent thinking and learning	- co-planning a topic or unit of a guideline or non- guideline course to be implemented using an independent study mode	- differentiation of process, product, and evaluation by breadth and depth
	- independently planning a topic or unit of a guideline or non-guideline course to be implemented using an independent study mode	- differentiation of process, product, and evaluation by kind, breadth and depth with an emphasis on pace
	- co-planning or independently planning a complete guide- line or non-guideline course to be implemented using an independent study mode	- differentiation of content, product, and evaluation by kind, breadth, depth and pace

b) Co-operative Education

All pupils, including the gifted, should be able to participate in co-operative-education courses.

Some needs and aspirations of

gifted learners can be met through the utilization of resources that are available in the community. This expertise of human resources within the community may be required to enhance the pupil's learning and to assist him/her to reach his/her potential. The perceptive teacher will be sensitive to the time when the specialized knowledge and skills of community resource personnel may be required to provide learning experiences that will take the pupil beyond the regular program.

All co-operative-education courses have in-school and out-of-school components. These courses, for gifted pupils, must meet the requirements as

stipulated in Ontario Schools:

Intermediate and Senior Divisions

(pp. 25-27).

DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

To provide for a greater degree of flexibility in managing and adapting programs for some gifted learners, the principal of the secondary school may reduce the sixteen compulsory credits by a maximum of four. 18 Consequently, the exceptional pupil's program could include a minimum of twelve compulsory credits within the thirty credits required for diploma purposes. This option should be exercised with a great deal of caution if it is anticipated that it will have an

adverse effect on decisions regarding university admission and university admission scholarships.

^{18.} See ibid., Section 4.10, p. 18.



6. THE PLAN

In The Formative Years, the policy for curriculum planning indicates that "the Ministry articulates the broad goals" and "school staffs, both as individual teachers and as a collective body under the leadership of the principal, have the task of planning classroom programs specifically adapted to children for whom they are responsible."19 This policy is reiterated in Ontario Schools: Intermediate and Senior Divisions and, for exceptional pupils, is delineated further in the Education Act. A pupil who is identified as gifted by an Identification,

Placement, and Review Committee is entitled to a special education program "that is based on and modified by the results of continuous assessment and evaluation." 20

A program for a gifted pupil must:

- relate to his/her identified affective and cognitive needs;
- provide learning experiences that are differentiated to accommodate his/her
 - proven abilities,
 - perceived interests,
 - expressed aspirations.

A special education program for an identified gifted

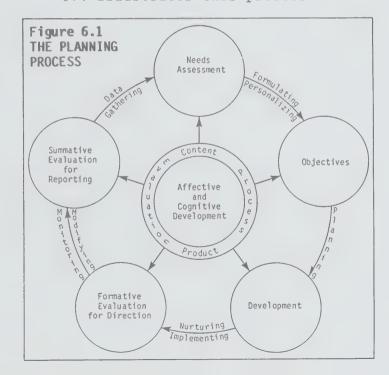
^{19.} Ministry of Education,
Ontario, The Formative Years
(Toronto: Ministry of Education, Ontario, 1975), p.2.

^{20.} Paragraph 63, Subsection
1.(1), Education Act.

pupil must include a plan that contains:

- specific objectives;
- an outline of educational services that meets the needs of the learner.

The planning process for gifted learners follows the same steps as those for any learner. Figure 6.1 illustrates this process.



With gifted learners
the initial planning sessions
will involve both the teacher and
the pupils as active participants
in the co-planning process.
During the preliminary stages of
co-planning, the following should
be considered:

- the goals of education for all pupils (see pages 8 and 9);
- the aim for gifted learners (see page 23);
- the general characteristics and the concomitant needs of gifted pupils (see pages 11, 19 to 22);
- the partners for learning (see pages 48 and 49);
- the learning setting (see pages 50 and 51);
- program management and adaptations (see pages 91 to
 103).

During this stage of co-planning the teacher and the pupils may wish to extend or modify the descriptions of the general characteristics and concomitant needs in order to design checklists.

The data gathered from the checklists can be the bases for making decisions regarding:

- the selection of appropriate goals for gifted pupils;
- the identification of the partners for the learning experience;
- the location of the learning setting or settings;
- the negotiations for program adaptations.

When these decisions have been made, the co-learners can proceed with the development of the plan for the learning experiences.

6.1 THE STRUCTURE OF THE PLAN

The charts on pages 114 to 121 consist of four parts, one part for each of the components of a learning experience:

- content;
- process;
- product;
- evaluation.

Each part consists of two sections:

- a guide for content, process, product or evaluation;
- a <u>plan</u> for content, process, product or evaluation.

Each "guide" section is structured to encourage the colearners to examine one of the components of the learning experience and to consider strategies for differentiating that component through four dimensions:

- kind
- breadth

- depth
- pace

The format of each "guide" requires the co-learners to consider the answers to a series of questions under five headings:

- analysis
- needs assessment
- formulation of objectives
- development
- evaluation

Opposite each "guide" is a "plan" on which the co-learners can record the answers to the questions. It is suggested that each blank page of the "plans" be duplicated for subsequent planning sessions.

6.2 DEVELOPING A PLAN

During the development of a plan information may be made readily

available by duplicating the following charts and using them as study cards:

- differentiation matrix (page 31)
- the content chart (page 32)
- the process chart (page 33)
- the product chart (page 34)
- the evaluation chart (page 35)

The following sequence of suggestions may help the colearners use the guides to develop plans for the four components of learning experiences:

- a) identify the affective and cognitive needs of the pupils;
- b) select the component or components of the learning

experiences that should be developed to meet the affective and cognitive needs identified above;

- c) select a topic for study. The co-learners may wish to develop:
 - a plan for a complete unit of study that evolves from a broadbased issue, problem, or theme;

or

- a plan for the study of a specific topic;
- d) identify the dimensions that should be differentiated for each of the components. It is not anticipated that all dimensions for all components of a learning experience will be emphasized in each experience;

e) refer to the guides for content, process, product, and evaluation.

ANALYSIS

The analysis steps of the planning process will provide an
overview of the content, process,
product, and evaluation. This
overview can be developed through
brainstorming and will become the
basis for the answers to the
questions in the analysis
column. The answers can be
recorded in the appropriate cell
of this column on the plan.

It may be necessary for the teacher or the dominant partner to probe for further information or to supplement the information to ensure that the breadth, depth, and pace have been considered.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The needs-assessment step of the guide and the plan requires the co-learners to classify their responses to the brainstorming process. The number of classes and the criteria for classifying are implicit in the questions in the needs-assessment columns of the guides. Two basic questions identify the classes:

- What do the learners already know?
- What must be learned?

FORMULATION OF OBJECTIVES

When the needs for content and process acquisition and product and evaluation development have been identified, then the

objectives, in terms of learning outcomes, can be formulated by the co-learners.

Some co-learners will record
answers to the questions in the
analysis, needs-assessment, and
formulation-of-objectives columns
for each of the four components
and then synthesize these into a
primary objective before
proceeding with the next stage.
Other co-learners may prefer to
complete each page of the plan in
sequence and then synthesize all
information on the plan to
develop a general plan for the
unit of study.

DEVELOPMENT

Answers to the questions in the development column of the guide will provide the co-learners with suggestions for teaching/learning activities through which the objectives can be met. The tentative decisions to the following can be finalized and recorded on the plan:

- school and community resources, including members of the partnership;
- the settings;
- program adaptations, including scheduled time.

EVALUATION

The members of the co-learning partnerships are encouraged to reflect on the program and their performance in order to add depth to the learning experiences.

Alternative evaluators, beyond the co-learners, will add breadth. By integrating the model on page 106 with answers to the questions in the plan, the co-learners can design and implement appropriate assessment and evaluation strategies that will encourage them to strive for excellence.

Information derived from continuous assessment and evaluation can serve two purposes:

- as formative evaluation to facilitate modifications to the pupil's special education program;
- as summative evaluation that takes place at the conclusion of a unit of study or a period of time and forms the basis for reporting.

Modifications to the pupil's program result from newly identified needs that are revealed through the teacher's observation of the performance of the pupil and through formal and informal assessment techniques. Assessment strategies for gifted learners will not differ greatly from those that are used by teachers for all pupils. The evaluation of the progress of a gifted pupil must reflect his/her achievement in relation to the objectives that have been stated. Teachers, however, should be aware of the statement

from Ontario Schools: Intermediate and Senior Divisions,

1984:

Advanced-level courses that are enriched may be offered where feasible. Student achievement in such courses shall be reported at the advanced level so that all students taking an advanced-level course. whether it is enriched or not, will receive assessments based on comparable standards. This is particularly important when students submit their results to post-secondary institutions.21

f) As a gifted learner gains facility with planning procedures, the teacher's

^{21.} Ontario Schools:
Intermediate and Senior
Divisions, p. 17.

role will become that of facilitator, monitor, and evaluator. As an independent
learner, the pupil will be
encouraged to use the guide in
developing a plan. This plan
could become a contract for
learning.

	Conten	nt Analysis	Content Assessment	Formulation of Objectives	Development	Evaluation
	KIND	What broad-based issue, problem, or theme is to be considered for study? What content is relevant to the broad-based issue, problem, or theme?	Of the relevant content, what has been mastered?	As a result of the assessment, what outcomes should be expected at the conclusion of the learn- ing experience?	What teaching/learning strategies and activities should be considered by the co-learners to achieve the objectives? How can the learning experiences be adapted to accommodate:	How well has each objective for content acquisition been achieved? a) What evaluation techniques are to be used? b) What criteria are to
r dimensions for different ed during this study?	BREADTH	What subjects of the curriculum will evolve from the broad-based issue, problem, or theme to make the content a multidisciplined approach to learning?			a) learning styles; b) settings; c) resources; d) schedule?	be established? c) By whom will the criteria be estab- lished and applied?
	DEPTH	To what topic or topics of the content does the learner show an intense interest and a strong commitment?	Of the relevant content, what should be acquired?			
	PACE	What is the expected timeline for the development of the content? What content can be compacted and still retain the integrity of the topic? What content will require extended periods of time due to intense interest?				

Analys	is	Assessment	Objectives	Devel opment	Evaluation
KIND					
BREADTH					
HTGAST PACE ADDA ADDA ADDA ADDA ADDA ADDA ADDA AD					
DACE ADDRESS IN CH.					

	Proce	ss Analysis	Process Assessment	Formulation of Objectives	Development	Evaluation
nensions for differentiating process uring this study?	KIND	What thinking skills, basic and specialized models, advanced technical skills, and affective skills are required for the development of the content of the broadbased issue, problem, or theme?	Of the essential models and skills, which ones can be readily applied?	tent to be developed, and	learners to acquire, master, and/or practise	How well has each cognitive skill, affective skill, affective skill, and each advanced technical skill been acquired, mastered and/oapplied?
	BREADTH	What cognitive processes and advanced technical skills will contribute to complex thinking and the transference of skills among the disciplines of the study?	Of the essential models and skills, which ones should be developed for			
	DEPTH	What levels of the cog- nitive processes and advanced technical skills will encourage intense thinking?				
	PACE	What degree of independence is evident through accurate application of basic and specialized models to a personalized model?				

	Assessment	Objectives	Development	Evaluation
ТН				
	Н	H	Н	Н

	Product Analysis		Pr	roduct Assessment	Formulation of Objectives	Development	Evaluation
r dimensions for differentiating product ed during this study?	KIND	What are the possible tangible products that can be developed during this study? What are the affective or intangible products that can be developed during this study?	b)	Of the possible tangible products, which ones have been produced previously? Of the possible intangible products, which ones	As a result of the assessment of the needs of the learner, the content to be developed, the skills to be acquired, and the selection of the appropriate products and audiences, what learning outcomes should be expected?	What teaching/learning strategies and re- sources will be required to assist the learners to meet the objectives?	How well were the objectives for the development of tangibl products achieved? How well were these products received? How well were the objectives for the acquist
	BREADTH	What tangible products can be developed that are based on speculation, that are creative in style, content, and structure, that require interdisciplinary participation, and that contribute to the society of the learner?		are evident?	be expected?		tion of intangible products achieved?
	DEPTH	What changes in behaviour can be the intangible product of the learning experience?	2. Of the possible tangible and intangible products, which ones are appropriate to the topic, to the learners, and/or				
	PACE	How will the mode of presentation take into account the nature of the product and the audience's knowledge of the topic?		to the audience?			

Evaluation	Development	Objectives	Assessment	Analysis	
				KIND	KI
				BREADTH	
				DEPTH	this study?
				PACE	be emphasized in
				PACE	Which dimension(s) for differentiating the be emphasized in this study?

	Evalı	uation Analysis	Evaluation Assessment	Formulation of Objectives	Development	Evaluation
ing evaluation	KINO	What measurement procedures are appropriate for evaluating the program and the performance of the learners as they acquire and apply the content and the skills to the development of the products?	Of the evaluation procedures, which ones have been used successfully?	As a result of the assessment of the needs of the learner, the content, the cognitive processes and skills to be acquired for the development of an appropriate product, what learning outcomes should be	What teaching/learning strategies and resources will be necessary to assist the learners to meet the objectives?	How well has each objective for the development of evaluation procedures been achieved?
the four dimensions for differenti emphasized during this study?	BREADTH	1. What alternative evaluators are available to co-evaluate the program and the performance? 2. What are the appropriate evaluation procedures for alternative evaluators?		expected?		
	DEPTH	What procedures should be developed and applied to encourage gifted learners to evaluate their programs and performances as independent learners?	rocedures should be			
	PACE	How can formative and summative evaluation encourage gifted learners to strive for excellence as independent, creative, and productive people within their societies?				

Analysis	Assessment	Objectives	Development	Evaluation
KIND				
BREADTH				
DEPTH				
PACE				
PACE				



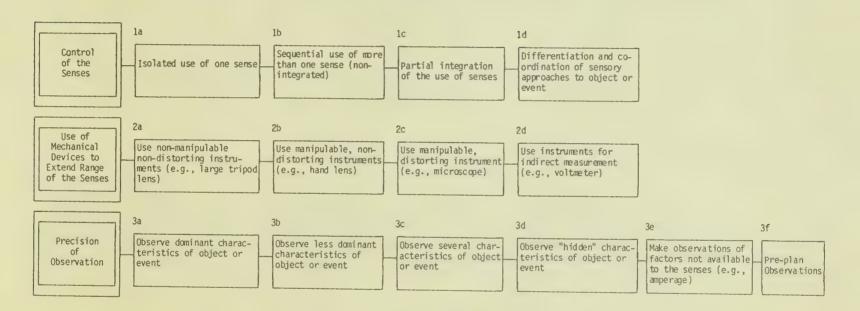
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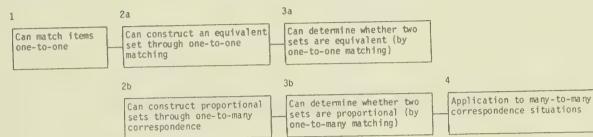
APPENDIX A Basic Thinking Skills

Observation Observation is the ability to use all of the senses to identify the characteristics of objects or events.



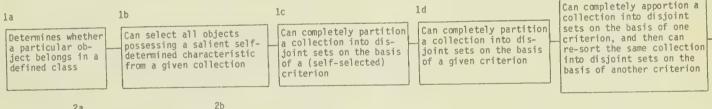
Correspondence

Correspondence is the matching of objects or events or groups of objects or events.

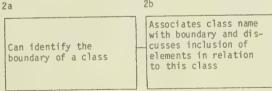


Classification

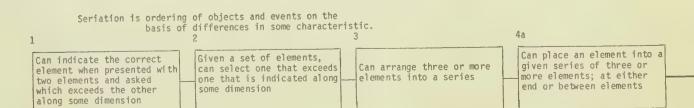
Classification is placing objects or events into groups on the basis of similarities.

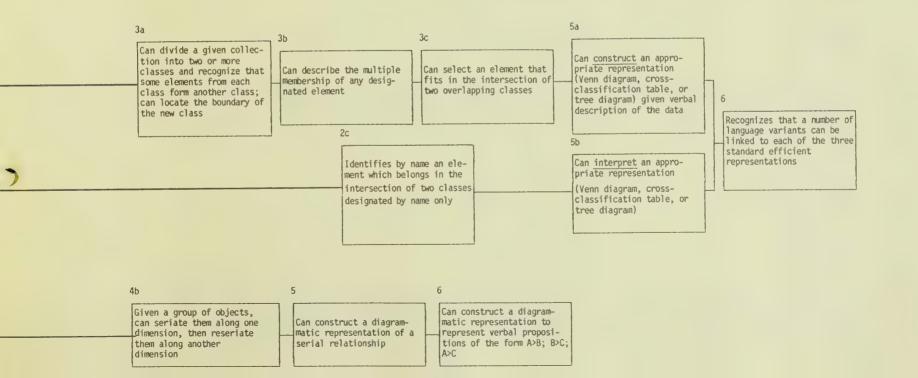


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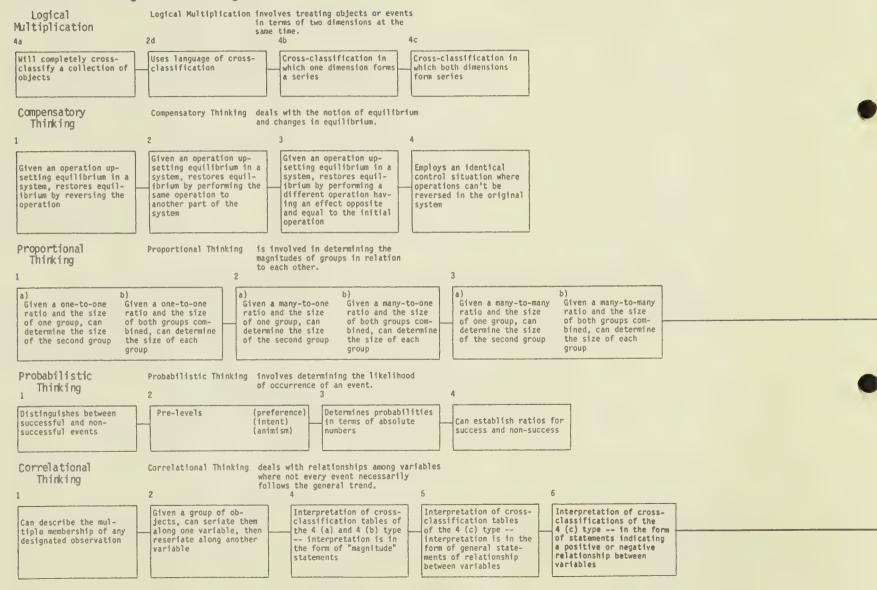


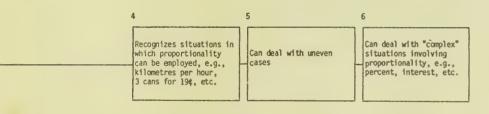
Seriation





APPENDIX B Integrated Thinking Skills





Employs a suitable diagrammatic representation to show a relationship between variables

Mathematical sophistication in the interpretation of the relationship between two variables



Flexibility of Interpretation

Abstraction to the point of Efficient Representation

- (a) Selects the representation most appropriate to a problem
- (b) Selects "convenient" categories with which to employ efficient representations

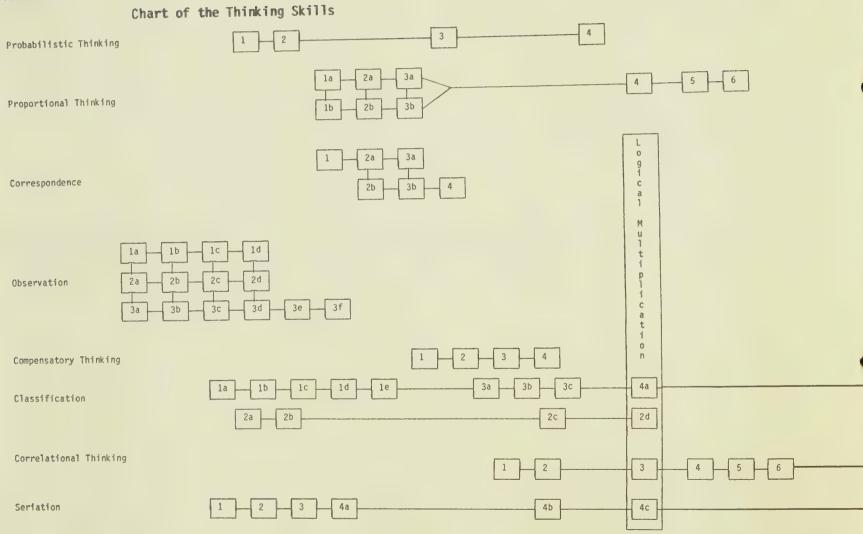
1 3

Recognizes the arbitrariness of systems of representations

Can determine that a description of a relationship is inefficient in the sense that it contains unnecessary information

Determines that data provided do not allow unique representations of relationships Employs informationprocessing strategies systematically to deal with increasingly complex data

APPENDIX C

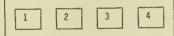


This chart is a reconstruction of all of the growth strands for the basic and integrated thinking skills. The chart is designed to show the relationships across the strands. Some teachers have constructed a large wall chart by reproducing the growth strands, cutting out each box, referring to this chart as a guide, and pasting each box in its respective place. The large wall chart can be transcribed into a checklist.

Teachers should refer to page 31 for alternative ways for developing these skills.

Flexibility of interpretation Abstraction to the point of efficient Representation

- (a) Selects the representation most appropriate to a problem
- (b) Selects "convenient" categories with which to employ efficient representations

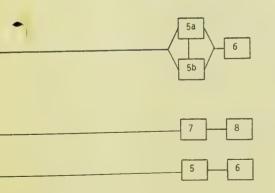




BASIC INQUIRY MODEL

AND

MODIFICATIONS



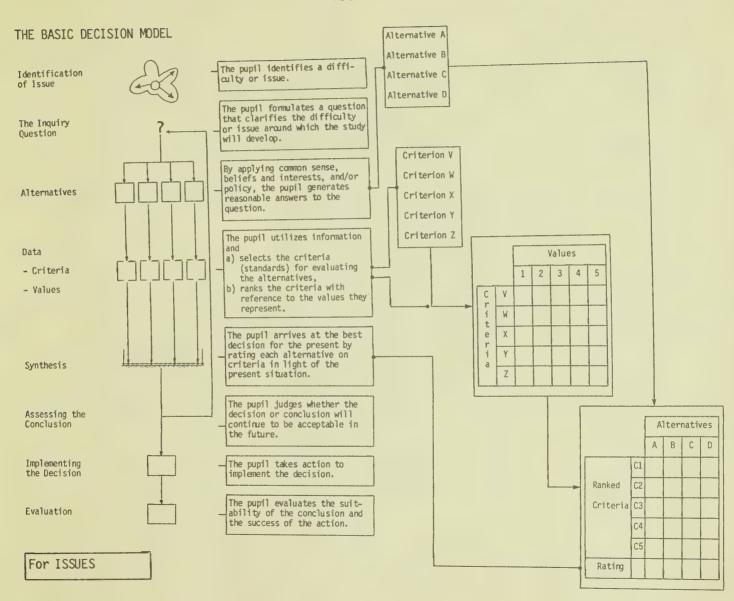
BASIC MODELS APPENDIX D THE BASIC INQUIRY MODEL THE BASIC PROBLEM-SOLVING MODEL The pupil identifies a defici-Initial Exploratory activities are Problem ency in a situation - the Experience introduced. Setting problem. In order to deal with the prob-The Inquiry The pupil poses a suitable The Inquiry 1em, the pupil formulates a Ouestion question around which the study Ouestion question that clarifies the will develop. issue. The pupil suggests a range of The pupil suggests a range of reasonable alternatives to reasonable alternatives to Alternatives answer the question. Alternatives answer the question that will (Additional alternatives may solve the problem. arise in the subsequent datacollection stage.) The pupil collects information on each alternative. Data The pupil collects information Data on each alternative. The pupil arrives at a conclusion by deciding, on the basis The pupil arrives at a concluof the accumulated information. Synthesis sion by deciding, on the basis Synthesis which of the alternatives of the accumulated information. give(s) the best answer to the which of the alternatives question to solve the problem. give(s) the best answer to the question. Assessing the The pupil ascertains whether Assessing the The pupil ascertains whether Conclusion the conclusion adequately Conclusion the conclusion adequately ananswers the original question. swers the original question and solves the problem. Expressing the The pupil organizes a clear Solving the Conclusion expression and presentation of Problem The pupil solves the problem. the conclusion. The pupil assesses the appro-The pupil expresses the approp-Evaluation priateness of the conclusion riateness of the solution of Evaluation and its expression in the light the original deficiency. of the original question. From Ministry of Education, Ontario, Research Study Skills.

For PROBLEMS

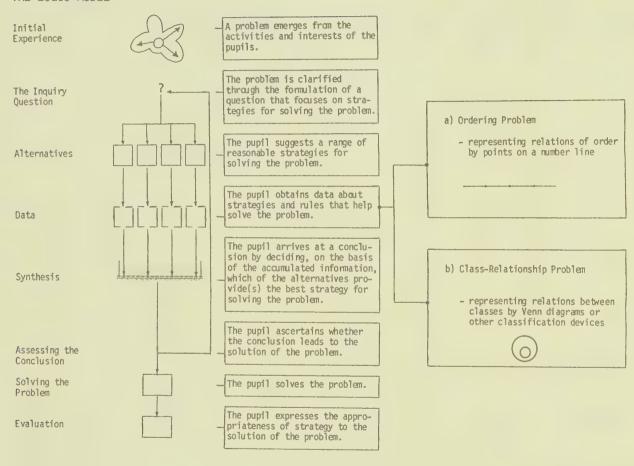
For THEMES

Curriculum Ideas for Teachers (Toronto: Ministry of

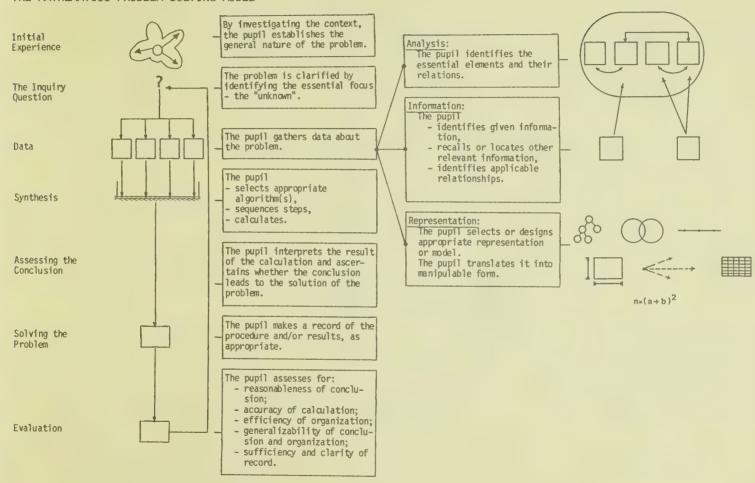
Education, Ontario, 1979), p. 20.



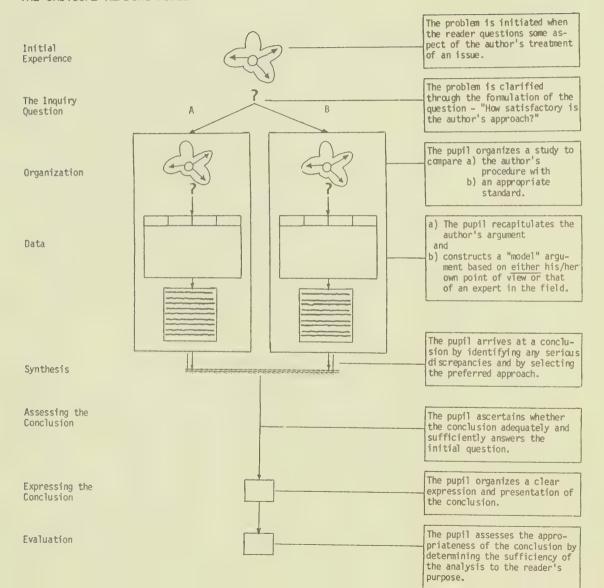
THE LOGIC MODEL



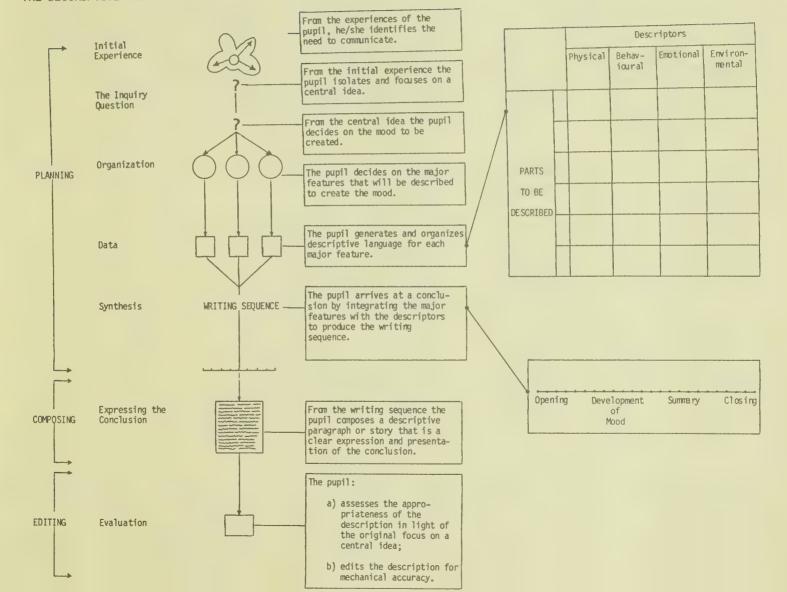
THE MATHEMATICS PROBLEM-SOLVING MODEL

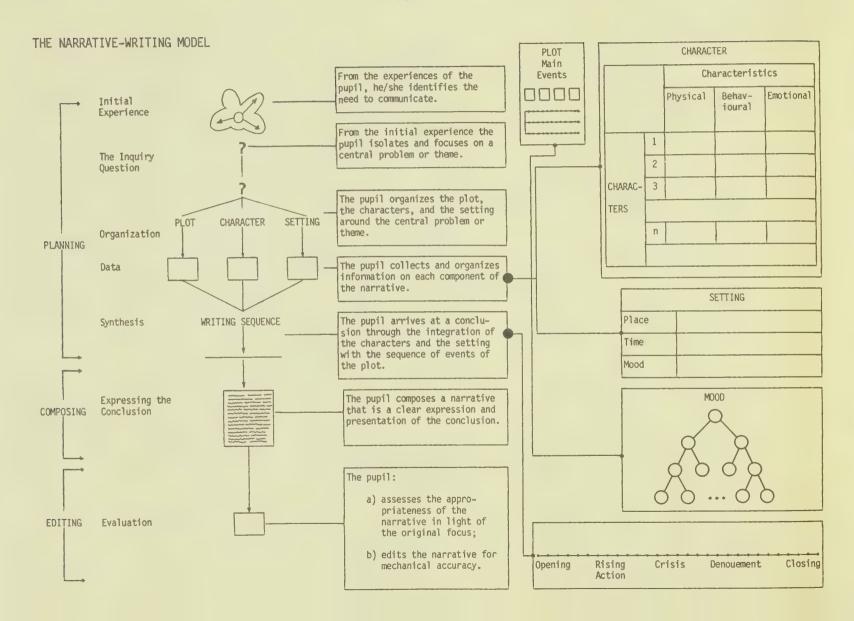


THE CRITICAL-READING MODEL

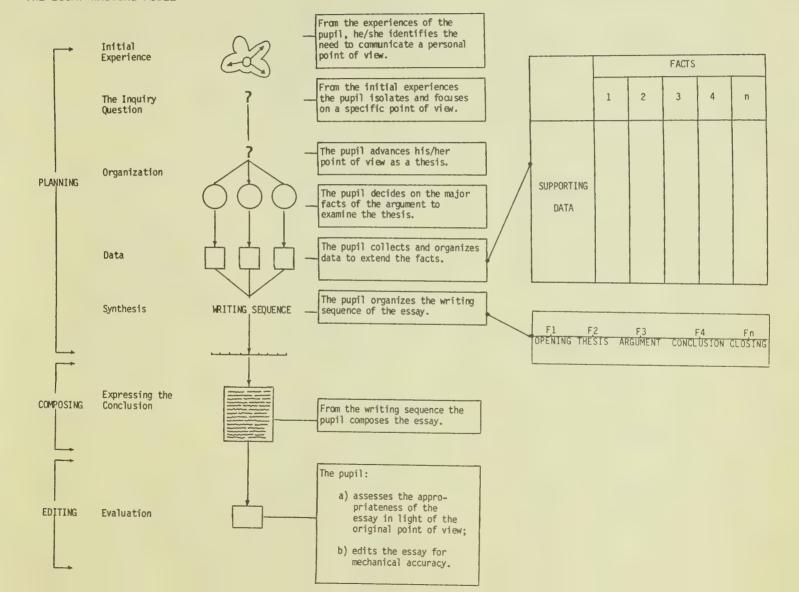


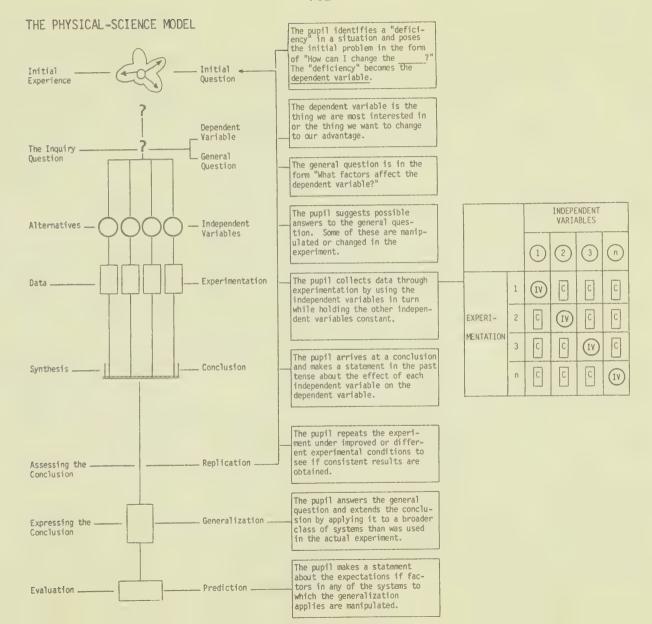
THE DESCRIPTIVE-WRITING MODEL

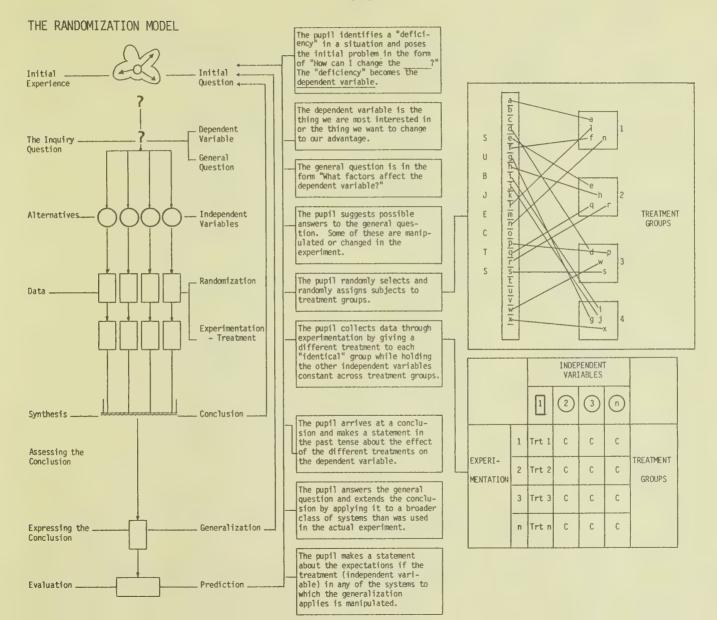


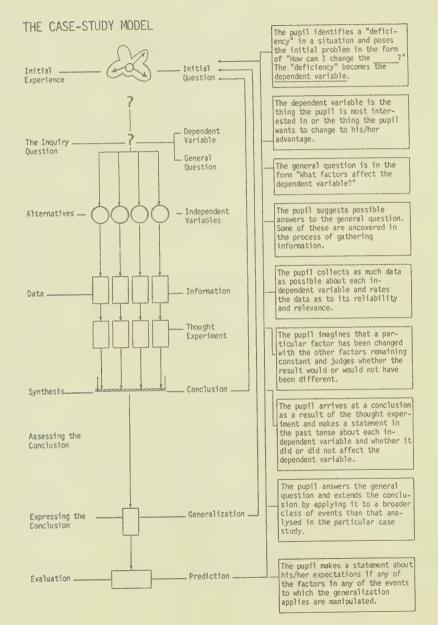


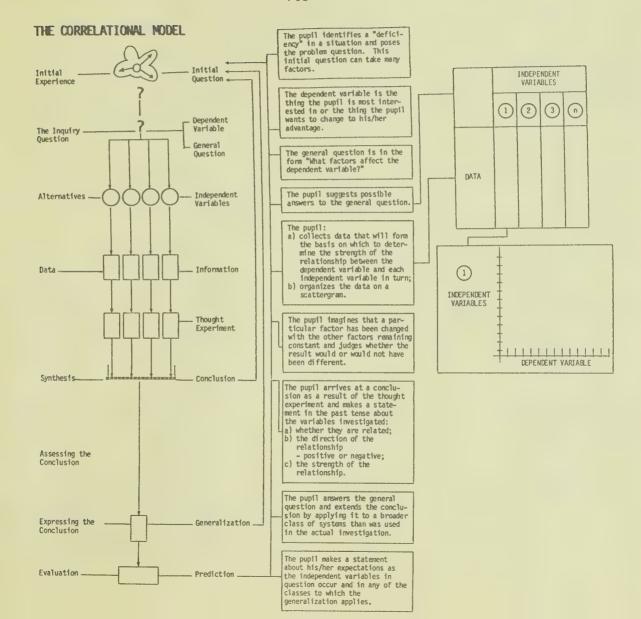
THE ESSAY-WRITING MODEL











APPENDIX F

BLOOM'S TAXONOMY

1. Knowledge

Knowledge of Specifics

- Knowledge of terminology
- Knowledge of specific facts

Knowledge of Ways and Means of Dealing with Specifics

- Knowledge of conventions
- Knowledge of trends and sequences
- Knowledge of clarifications and categories
- Knowledge of criteria
- Knowledge of methodology

Knowledge of the Universals and Abstractions in a Field

- Knowledge of principles and generalizations
- Knowledge of theories and structures

2. Comprehension

Translations

Interpretations

Extrapolations

3. Application

4. Analysis

Analysis of Elements

Analysis of Relationships

Analysis of Organizational Principles

5. Synthesis

Production of a Unique Communication

Production of a Plan, or Proposed Set of Operations

Derivation of a Set of Abstract Relations

6. Evaluation

Judgements in Terms of Internal Evidence

Judgements in Terms of External Criteria

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